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FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1902.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED, BUT STILL IN THE RING

(Concluded.)

assistance from at least four men. He had no possible reason for appearing in that place and at that time except it would be to make his presence known to the police and enjoy the excitement of the chase once more. He was not hungry. Nothing that he did or secured at the house could excuse his carelessness. In fact, the only thing he did except talk to the three women, was to wash himself. He saw the train go past with the armed deputies, but made no effort to escape, though he had then every opportunity.

Deliberately Giving Himself Away.
Again, the fact that he sent a strange boy down to sell the watches and buy revolvers, looks queer. The murderer had his friends, who were then near Renton. If he had really desired the weapons, the safest way to get them was from these friends. He had parted with them only a few hours before he met the boy. Miss Baker says that the outlaw really thought to near the last that the lad would return. At least Tracy spoke to this effect. The presence of heavy armed guards around the house did not seem to shake his faith. In addition to the watches, Tracy gave the young man \$9, every cent he had in his possession, and when he took his departure the whole matter, lad, money, watches and revolvers, seemed to have slipped from his memory.

Child of Disordered Brain.
From whatever side Tracy's visit to the Gerralls is viewed, it seems the fantasy of a disordered brain. It was neither reasonable nor necessary. Its only explanation is that the outlaw is not in his right mind that the mental strain he has undergone since his bloody farewell to the Salem penitentiary has proved too much for even his iron nerves, and

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THEY WILL GRANT IT

THE COUNTY COURT WILL ALLOW ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

Meeting Yesterday to Discuss Terms
to Be Made With the Promoters of
the Line.

The only thing remaining between the county officials and electric railroad promoters is the signing of the contract drawn up today by the county court. The court decided several days ago that there was no way of getting around giving the Romo-Mellmann electric road promoters a franchise. If satisfactory arrangements could not be made with the officials, the promoters declared they would appropriate the right of way and build the road whether or no. This they had the right to do under the state laws and the officials were helpless. Consequently, after plenty of deliberation the court this forenoon granted the franchise. A rough draft was drawn up and given to District Attorney Halley, representing the county, and Attorney Stillman, who represents the corporation to finish and get up in legal form.

This will then be examined by the court and if it is what they want, will be submitted to the promoters for their signatures.

In case the provisions are satisfactory and it is signed by the promoters, it is announced that work will begin on the road at once.

While the exact provisions of the articles the promoters will be asked to sign is not yet given out, it is understood that they will be similar to the contract entered into with the people of Walla Walla county.

Public Meeting Discussed It.

In response to a call for a meeting of the citizens of Pendleton Thursday evening two dozen business men and citizens, including the county court and city council met in the Commercial Association rooms to discuss the pros and cons of the proposed electric railway franchise through the county and city.

Leon Cohen presided over the meeting. He called on County Judge Hartman to explain the object of the gathering.

The judge arose and announced that the court had decided to grant the franchise. He said the county court had gone over the proposed line and decided that the electric railroad would not injure the wagon road to any great extent, if at all, by being built along one edge and as the laws of the state of Oregon were so constructed as to make it a case of "make the best deal with the promoters possible," the court had concluded to make the best deal it could for the protection of the citizens.

The court was not in favor of letting the promoters run their road along the county road at first, but after several opinions were handed down from local attorneys on the construction of the law and it was seen that the promoters could appropriate the road whether the county officials willed it or not, it was decided the proper thing to do was to make an agreement with the company which would protect the county as much as possible.

The judge stated the object of the meeting was to get the ideas of all interested so the court would have a better conception of how to handle the application for the franchise.

It was the consensus of opinion that a right of way for the road through private property would cost the promoters from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and this being the case if they were granted the right to run on the public roads without cost the company should reimburse the county in some way for the privilege. Some thought the plan of having an agreement with the company that the county could purchase the road at any time at actual cost of construction would be a good plan.

Others thought to give the company the cost of running the road and a reasonable interest on their money and let the rest of the profits revert to the county would be a good thing.

The matter of taxation of the road was discussed at length. Some advanced the idea that if the promoters could appropriate the public highway at will, it being public property they might be able to avoid paying tax on the improvements. This idea, however, was dispelled by the attorneys present.

It is the offer of the promoters to begin work on the road in the county within six months or forfeit the franchise. It was the opinion of most present that provision should be made stating that the company should continue work or forfeit the franchise. Otherwise, they could begin work and stop and then, in case it is their object to make it a speculative scheme, they would have two years in which to do this as the road had to be built in two years.

IS MERRILL IN PORTLAND?

Excitement Caused by Supposed Appearance of the Escape.

Portland is excited over the story to the effect that Convict Merrill is in that city and took supper at a lunch counter there Wednesday

many who saw the man declaring without hesitancy that he was no other than Tracy's partner in crime.

The man appeared at one of the lunch counters just before the lunch hour and asked for work. He was told that there was nothing for him and then sat down to eat a lunch. While he was eating an old paper was procured and the suspected man compared with the picture of Merrill the resemblance being beyond question.

The suspects shoes were badly worn, and looked as if they had had some very rough use. He looked tired and worn, but had about him a rough independent air that could be expected in such man as Merrill. During his lunch he called for a messenger boy and gave him a note.

The boy could not find the party to whom the note was addressed and upon his return, some of the people who by this time had become suspicious asked the boy to let them read the note. It read as follows:

"I have seen him and will have to get out of town at once."

Upon finishing his meal the man drew from his pocket a large leather purse, in which seemed to be plenty of money, and paid the charges and left the place, leaving the people wondering concerning their strange visitor.

TRACY'S NARROW ESCAPE.

Unobserved Rifle Was Almost Direct
at His Heart.

Convict Harry Tracy's career of crime and bloodshed came near coming to a sudden close last Tuesday evening shortly after his escape from the Gerald home, when Joe Peek, of Renton, had a bead on the desperado's heart and would have pulled the trigger had it not been for the intervention of some women who were at hand.

Peek noticed a man skulking through his orchard, about 200 feet from the main street of Renton and procuring his rifle drew a bead on the man's heart. As he was about to fire a woman standing near said: "Don't shoot him, Joe. It may be one of the posse."

Tracy did not see Peek and but for the intervention of the women he would have been instantly killed. About 10 minutes afterward Peek became convinced that the slinking figure was Tracy but it was then too late.

Tracy and Merrill Bills.

In the Marion county court last Wednesday bills aggregating \$250 were filed, these being incurred on account of the chase after Tracy and Merrill when these worthies were in Marion county. The bills are for various amounts, and the items of expense named are as varied as the amounts. One man filed a bill for \$2 for tobacco furnished the posse; another charged \$1.40 for ammunition and a third—a farmer at Marquam—had a charge of \$5 for horse feed. The court has not yet decided what to do with the bills.

Dance Tomorrow Night.

Peter Smith, who is running a dancing platform in Kine's grove, announces he will run the dance Saturday evenings from this on. The dance will begin at 8 o'clock and last until 11:30. The dances will also be conducted Sunday and Sunday night as usual. Gentlemen will be charged 25 cents. Ladies free.

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PEOPLES WAREHOUSE

PERSONAL MENTION.

G. A. Coffin is in town from Walla Walla.

C. A. Johnson is at the Golden Rule on Pilot Rock.

R. P. Riggs and wife are at Hotel Pendleton from Milton.

Representative and Mrs. H. M. Blakley have returned from a few days on their ranch.

Delios O'Hara and Andrew Anderson expect to leave this evening for the mountains to be gone several days on a vacation.

Mrs. J. N. Sutton, sister of Mrs. Thomas Fitz Gerald, is expected to arrive this evening from Portland, to visit a few weeks here.

John Shaw and wife, of Union, were in town Thursday. Mr. Shaw is a horse dealer and had been in Walla Walla county looking after interests.

Marriage licenses were issued Thursday by the county clerk to James Gormley and Caroline McCoy; Thomas Thorne and Mrs. Louisa Kees, all of Umatilla county.

W. T. Rigby and wife have returned from their ranch in the Grande Ronde country. Mr. Rigby says haying has commenced there but harvest is several weeks off yet. He says the recent rains and wind did some damage to grain but not enough to offset the good it did. Range was also greatly benefited by the rain.

Mrs. Ash, mother of James Ash and Mrs. John Beam, fell down the stairs leading up to L. B. Reeder's office, this forenoon, and narrowly escaped serious injury. She had been up stairs on business, and when at the top of the steps tripped and fell, rolling to the bottom. Fortunately, she received no broken bones, but her face and body was somewhat bruised.

Pope's Reply Received.

Oyster Bay, July 11.—President Roosevelt has received the pope's reply to Taft's note, but will not make it public until the negotiations with the vatican are finished.

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