



AN OLD MYSTERY CLEARED.

Body of John Westley Stantruff Found in Alsea Mountains—Inquest Held.

A mystery of eleven years standing was cleared up last week by the accidental finding of the remains of John Westley Stantruff, in the Alsea mountains.

On Jan. 17, 1894, John Stantruff left his home near Bellfountain, early in the morning, taking his gun, a belt of cartridges, hunting knife, whetstone, and other hunters' accessories, and struck out into the mountains for a hunt after deer. This was nothing unusual at that time as the woods and mountains abounded with game, both large and small, and many settlers secured their winter's meat in this way. As John was considered an excellent woodsman, the thought of his getting lost was far from the minds of his parents, and he had many times before been away in the mountains two days at a time before returning home, so that his parents were not so very uneasy. But later in the day, along towards evening the sky became overcast with storm clouds, and by night a great storm was raging. The storm increased in fury and the snow began to fall. It lasted for fully 36 hours, and is said to have been one of the most terrific that has ever swept over that part of the country. When the hardy mountaineer failed to return home, however, after the storm came up, his parents and relatives began to feel uneasy, but expected that perhaps he had found shelter in the mountains and was waiting for the morning when he would have daylight to guide him out of the forest. But the second day came and he did not return.

The third day after young Stantruff's disappearance, his parents aroused the neighbors, and a searching party went out. A deep snow had fallen and all traces of the hunter was lost, so that the searchers had nothing to go by, but the general direction that they knew he had taken. The mountains were covered as thoroughly as possible, and the search continued several days, but all trace of him was lost as completely as if the earth had opened up and swallowed him. Finally he was given up for good, but everyone had come to the conclusion that he had met foul play, and the body had been destroyed or buried. As time went on this conclusion became a conviction in the minds of nearly all of the settlers in the neighborhood. It even came to a suspicion that his assassin lived in that section of the country. This opinion was held by many until last week.

HUNTERS FIND BODY.

Last Thursday, Jan. 26, Chas. Brownfield and J. E. Hawkins were out in the mountains northwest of Green Peak, and about 12 miles from Bellfountain. They are trappers and hunters, and were looking for new trapping grounds with the intention of moving further into the mountains. They came to a small mountain stream near its source. The stream flowed toward the Alsea valley, down the western slope of the mountains. It was just over the summit of the mountains from John Stantruff's home. Hawkins was in the lead, following the stream down the mountain. He came to a large fallen tree that looked as though it had been lying there for many years. As he climbed over the tree the sight of a rubber boot met his eye, and glancing further up, alongside the body of the tree, he saw a felt hat. By this time his companion had caught up, and they investigated further. They found the bare skeleton of a man, lying as though he had sought shelter underneath other logs that were crossed over the

fallen tree. Rubber boots were still on the feet of the skeleton, and other clothing, although mostly rotted away, partially covered the body. A belt of cartridges was around the shoulders, and a hunting knife, whetstone and other articles usually carried by a hunter were in the belt.

The men hastened away to the nearest house where a telephone could be found, and called up Coroner S. N. Wilkins, of Corvallis. He immediately drove out to the Spaulding homestead claim, where a party of men met him, and on account of the roughness of the country, the party struck out from this point on foot, having to go about five miles into the mountains. Arrived where the remains were an inquest was held, and as plenty of evidence was at hand, the decision of the jury was that the body was that of John Westley Stantruff, and that he came to his death from exhaustion and the extreme cold, about January 18, 1894.

The remains were turned over to his mother, and were interred beside his father, who died Jan. 7, 1905. At the time of his death John Westley Stantruff was 29 years of age.

John Withycombe Gets Medal.

A large crowd was present Friday evening at the Armory to witness the contest between the different societies for the honor of representing OAC at Newberg in the state oratorical contest, which occurs March 10. From 7:30 to 8:30 the walls of the Armory resounded with the cheers and yells of the societies. The program opened with music by the orchestra, after which the following orations were given: Sorosis representative, Lucille Roberts, "Nature" the Zetaganthean representative, Ralph Shepard, "Chief Joseph—Nez Perces," Philadelphian representative, Haman Bilyeu, "Gustavus Adolphus—the Hero" Solo by Mr. Briggs, oration, Feronian representative, Louise Gilbert, "Marcus Whitman" Pierian representative, Edna Smith, "Alfred the Great—the Reformer" Amicitian representative, John Withycombe, "The Great Puritan and Conservator of Liberties" Solo by Mr. Herse, oration Utopian representative, Laura Pratt "A Message of Light from Darkness" Jeffersonian representative, Mark Weatherford, "The Russo-Japanese War, its place in History" music by the orchestra. While the points were being summed up to decide the victorious ones the societies entertained the audience by their yells.

Mr. Glen Goodman presided during the evening and awarded the prizes as follows. First gold medal, and fifteen dollars to Miss Laura Pratt, second gold medal and nine dollars to John Withycombe, third, silver medal to Mark Weatherford. It was afterward learned that Miss Pratt was a special student and consequently could not represent the college. This gave Student John Withycombe first place, Mark Weatherford second, and Ralph Shepard third place.

Mr. Withycombe will go to Newberg as the representative of the Oregon Agricultural College and the student body wish him all success.

Letter List.

For the week ending Jan. 21, 1905 Persons calling for these letters will please state date on which they were advertised. They will be charged at the rate of one cent each: Barney Albright, Corvallis Nursery, Mrs. Mark Doleon, H W Edelman, Fred M Fuller, Miss Laura Hilton, F R Johnson, Mrs. M. A Leighton, Miss Emma Mischler, S W Prindie, Ulysses Segare, R B Wilkins, Judge Wallace.

B. W. JOHNSON, P. M.

EDWIN STONE DEAD.

Assaulted and Burned at Newport Sunday Morning—Died in Albany Yesterday.

Edwin Stone, manager of the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad Co. was assaulted in a room in the Abbey House, at Newport, last Sunday morning, and was seriously burned in a fire which started in a room at the time of the assault. He was taken to his home in Albany Sunday evening, but died Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

About 1 o'clock Sunday morning fire was discovered in the room in which Mr. Stone was sleeping. When the fire was extinguished Mr. Stone was found to be unconscious and very seriously burned. The indications were that he had been assaulted. A big scar shows where he was struck on the head, and on his arms were black and blue spots showing where his assailant had gripped them as he struggled.

While in the room the unknown assailant must have dropped a lighted match, thus starting the fire. In the assault, Mr. Stone was rendered unconscious and was burned by the fire while in that condition. The story of the assault and the origin of the fire is only conjecture, but all indications point to this theory. The motive of the assault is supposed to have been robbery.

Edwin Stone was one of Oregon's best known railroad men. He has been manager of the C. & E. R. R. the past ten years. He was one of Albany's leading citizens, and prominent throughout the state. He was a citizen of Corvallis for several years before moving to Albany.

Grange Installs Officers.

Corvallis Grange installed officers at their regular meeting held at their hall in OAC Agricultural Building last Saturday. Willamette Grange members led by Mrs. Mary Whitby and John Whitaker performing the installation ceremony. Prof. George Coote is the master for the coming year.

A delicious lunch was served at 12 o'clock by ladies Snell Callahan, Crawford, Horner, and Withycombe at Miss Snell's rooms at the College.

At this meeting the following resolutions of condolence were adopted by the grange:

God is love. His loving kindness endureth forever. He is worthy to be praised. Blessed be his name forevermore. With His hand He guideth his children quietly in the pleasant paths of peace where they may dwell in the midst of wisdom and holiness. He teacheth them to labor and to wait,—to labor for the night Cometh, to wait that they may rest till the labors of the new day crowd upon them. Thus till the end of life's harvest time, when He taketh his weary children home. Thus hath He led from our midst, our beloved Brother. Be it

RESOLVED, therefore, we express our sympathies with the relatives of our deceased Brother, Charles E. Moore; and as a solace to their hearts, wounded and sore, we commend to them his straightforward noble life which had for its abiding foundation an unerring faith in the right, as it was pointed out to him by a Kind Heavenly Father.

RESOLVED that Corvallis Grange has lost one of its most valuable members in the death of Brother Moore, and the State at large a most estimable citizen.

RESOLVED that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Grange and copies thereof be sent to the children of the deceased.

Dated at Hall of Corvallis Grange, Jan. 27, 1905.

J. B. Horner,
W. J. Kent,
H. L. French,
Committee on Resolutions.

F. L. MILLER'S Big Advance Sale of Women's and Children's MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

Lot 4

50c



These pictures give but a hint of the great values offered at this sale. Chances like this are seldom found. Take your choice.

Lot 1

12 1/2c



Can you afford to waste time making these garments? Come and see the goods. Don't trust these cuts. They are worth their weight in gold.

Lot 5

\$1.10



Can you afford to waste time making these garments? Come and see the goods. Don't trust these cuts. They are worth their weight in gold.

Lot 3

29c



A triumph of modern industry. Take as many garments in this assortment as you wish, except the gowns. Only one to a customer.

F. L. Miller, Corvallis, Oregon

Don't Miss the Opportunity

To call at our Furniture Store and let us show you some nice Art Squares that We are offering, until closed out, at greatly reduced prices.

In Passing Our Way

Just look at those Malleable Iron Beds we have been telling you about. They are cheaper than any other because they will last longer. Remember they are warranted for 25 years. It is to your interest

To Stop a Bit

and get our prices on Granite and Tinware. We have just received a large invoice of these goods. Whether you are going to house-keeping or just furnishing one or more rooms, let us figure on your bills. Everybody welcome to come in

And Examine Our Goods.

HOLLENBERG & CADY,
THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY