

Lake County Examiner

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NO. 43

WINGFIELD'S BODY FOUND AT LAST.

Floating in a Deep Slough One Mile From Home.

FRED BUSSEY MADE DISCOVERY.

No Signs of Foul Play. Rumor of Murder Unfounded. No Doubt of Cause of Death.

After 24 days diligent search, the body of Morris Wingfield was found floating in one of the deep sloughs in Warner valley last Friday evening about 6 o'clock and was recovered two hours later, when a boat and help had been brought to the scene. Fred Bussey, who had never given up the search, on that evening passed the place where more than 50 men had searched and dragged the slough for days, and saw the body lying face down in the middle of the big slough, with only the shoulders and head in sight. Mr. Bussey at once went for Wm. Nickolls, who had been constantly in the search since Morris Wingfield was missed on September 25th Nickolls and Bussey returned to the scene with a boat and secured the body from its watery grave, and started for Lakeview at 12 o'clock, arriving here the next morning.

Readers of The Examiner will remember that Mr. Wingfield was last seen on Sept. 24, and the next day his horse was found, and everything indicated that Morris had ridden into a slough the day before and had been drowned. The search for his body commenced at once. Nearly all of Warner valley hurried to the spot where the horse was found and there began the search. Every foot of ground was gone over and the sloughs searched as best they could be, considering the fact that the sloughs are wide, deep, muddy and filled with weeds and tules. The body was found 73 steps north of the place where cattle had crossed the slough. The man's hat and his riata are yet undiscovered, and until they are found only suppositions as to the exact spot where he rode into the slough can be arrived at. Now, however, it is believed that he undertook to cross where the cattle had crossed, and his horse floundered throwing him off, but he clung to parts of the rig and the horse swam and floundered for a considerable distance down the slough before Wingfield was released. Though the water in the slough does not seem to run, it has a tendency north, and may have carried the body some rods before it came to the surface. A thorough examination, by competent men, was made of the body and no signs of foul play were visible. The verdict was death by drowning.

The remains lay at the undertaker parlors in Lakeview while preparations for burial were made and at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon the funeral took place from the Baptist Church.

Mr. C. E. Campbell, a brother-in-law of Mr. Wingfield, upon leaving Warner two weeks ago offered \$200 for the recovery of the body, and we understand that something like \$150 more was made up by the neighbors of Mr. Wingfield. It was also rumored that Geo. Wingfield a brother of deceased, has offered \$1000, but this report is not definite. Mr. Bussey who first discovered the body is a brother of Mr. Wingfield's wife. He had searched diligently since he arrived there a few days after the disappearance of Morris. We understand that neither he nor Mr. Nickolls will accept the reward money. It can be said that every one in reach of there did everything in their power to find the body. The fact that it was not found is not to the discredit of any of the searchers, as it was predicted all along that the body would not be found until it raised to the surface of the water.

The report had gained considerable circulation away from here that Wingfield had been murdered and the body hidden for ransom from Geo. Wingfield the millionaire brother, of Goldfield.

These reports were unfounded and could not be borne out by any of the circumstances. They reflected discredit upon Warner valley and were humiliating to Lake county, and were scoffed at by sound reasoners, after carefully weighing the surrounding circumstances.

Stock and Land Sales.

N. S. Merrill last week sold three yearling short horn calves for \$50 each and one three-year-old short horn bull for \$100, which shows that there is money in thoroughbred cattle.—Merrill Record.

Two thousand head of yearling ewes were sold here today by Frank Strong to Joe Crosby for \$6 per head, the highest price ever recorded in Wyoming at this season of the year, says a Lowell, Wyoming, dispatch of October 3.

D. P. Browne informs us that the Warner Valley Stock Co. has not sold its beef yet. The Company has about 700 head. He also says that there are about 700 beef cattle at Bidwell unsold.

F. M. Miller sold the Geo. M. Jones beef, about 300 head, to C. Swanston while he was at Merrill last week, for 7 cents for steers and 5½ for cows.

L. Gerber bought Wm. Dobkins beef.

M. Lauritzen of Paisley is holding his beef at Merrill for sale.

Beef buyers are not so plentiful as they were two months ago.

Miller and Malloy have returned from the beef drive. Malloy says he does the work and Miller hauls the money.

Geo. Harrow returned from Summer Lake Sunday. He brought down 25 head of fine fat beef cattle, to be dissected for eating purposes at Hotel Lakeview.

Bonanza Bulletin:—Louis Gerber dropped over \$15,000 in the Sprague River valley last week. He bought of W. W. Smith, Frank Obenchain, Finley & Son, John Wells, Dobbins & Co., Tom Garrett, Howard & Son and several others, over 500 head of beef cattle.

Dan Malloy with a crew of seven men, passed through Bonanza Wednesday from Lake county with 735 head of beef cattle which he is delivering to buyers at Merrill.

Louis Gerber drove a bunch of 600 beef cattle through Bonanza early this morning. He will put them on alfalfa pasture at Merrill a short time before shipping to the southern markets.

J. S. Fuller returned from Nevada, last Sunday, where he bought several bands of sheep for a Reno buyer.

Mike O'Sullivan, the sheep man of Warner, who has been in partners with Phil Barrey for some years, was in Lakeview first of the week. He will put his sheep on the desert this winter. He says the feed is fine on the desert his fall.

From Our Exchanges.

Mrs. D. C. Schminck and Mrs. C. Stradley went to Summer Lake last week to visit Mrs. Schminck's parents Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Foster.

The Siler Lake Leader says Paisley is destined to soon become the principal city of Lake county.

It is said that thrashing is all done in Summer Lake valley, and the crops were good.

Born—In Bonanza, Oregon, Thursday morning, October 17, 1907, to Mr. and Mrs. George Boyd, a daughter.

There was 1500 pounds of mail passed through here Monday on the stage for Lakeview. It consisted mostly of magazines.—Bonanza Bulletin.

J. O. Hamaker is the happiest man in Bonanza today. He is now grandfather, and has been busy all day repeating the word grandpa with his head in a barrel getting used to the sound of the expression.—Bonanza Bulletin.

Archie Mason, of the Mason Construction company, arrived here Tuesday evening for the purpose of looking after his contract. When asked the destination of the Mt. Hood road he smiled and said it was a state secret.—Klamath Republican.

Silver Lake Leader:—This appears to be a very good year for fruit says the Summer Lake correspondent, as Uncle Jim Foster has sold over 7000 pounds of peaches and still has some left. F. W. Foster has sold several thousand pounds of prunes, besides drying a large amount, and still there are many bushels yet on the trees. This is but samples of every fruit grower in the valley.

G. B. Wardwell and family arrived home Wednesday evening from a months visit to Portland and other points. It looks good to see them with us again.

A. Gerber, a Seattle banker was in our city last week, returning from a trip to Lakeview. We understand that during the gentleman's stay in our county he purchased quite a body of land near Lakeview.

CIRCUIT COURT IS NOW IN SESSION.

Jury In the Pat Angland Case Secured. Not Many Cases.

Circuit Court was called Monday morning, with Hon. H. L. Benson on the bench. The first case to come up was the Pat Angland case, carried over from last term, it being the case in which Angland is charged with the larceny of a sheep. A jury was secured as follows: A. N. Lapham, G. H. Aldrige, L. G. Thomas, L. P. Klippel, W. D. Tracy, Wm. Vincent, L. A. Carriker, W. O. Vincent, Frank Baurer, Jr., R. T. Striplin, Thos. Hastings, C. O. Bethel.

Examination of witnesses will completed by last evening, it is thought, and arguments of attorneys will commence at the night session. District Attorney Moore, assisted

by L. F. Conn and W. Lair Thompson, represent the state and L. R. Webster and J. M. Batchelder for the defense.

The next case to come up will be the case of Warner Valley Stock Co. vs J. C. Dodson, a suit in which the Stock Co. sues Dodson for rent on the Merrow ranch, in Warner, claiming the rent paid Morrow was due the company.

The case of Friday vs Thein, suit to collect money, is next on the docket, and the only other jury case.

What will be done in the cases of the State of Oregon against the Warner Valley Stock Co. is not known at this time.

Handley Kidnaps His Little Child.

A sensation was created yesterday morning at the Wendell home in the south part of town, where the two little girls of Mrs. Lieta Handley were stopping with their grandmother, Mrs. Wendell. T. S. Handley, father of the children, slipped into the country unknown to the Wendell family, he and his wife not having lived together for some time, and accompanied by his brother Joe, drove up to the Wendell home about 9 o'clock yesterday morning. Tom told Mrs. Wendell that he wanted to take the children up town and surprise his wife. Mrs. Wendell refused to let him have the children and sent her son, Charlie to town after Mr. Wendell and Mrs. Handley.

As soon as Charlie left Handley pulled a revolver, shoved the gun in Mrs. Wendell's face and told her he would kill her if she did not let him take the children. At this Joe grabbed the older child, a girl 4 years old and leaped into the buggy. Tom jumped into the buggy, and they started to drive away, when Ruby, another daughter of Mrs. Wendell, grabbed the team, but was forced to let go when they began whipping the horses. The men escaped. Mrs. Wendell rushed to town and told what had happened. Deputy Sheriff Duke started at once after the fugitives. In the meantime Man Whorton of Pine Creek was called up on the phone and given orders to stop the men, which he and L. C. Vineyard attempted to do. Handley refused to stop when ordered to do so and Whorton shot one of his horses. They kept on for a few hundred yards, when the horse fell dead. Handleys had a team stationed at the State line and jumping into the other rig made their escape.

Up to the time of going to press nothing more has been heard from the officers or fugitives.

Rich Strike Made At Plush.

A very rich strike was made on the Mrs. C. W. Dent claim in the Ft. Warner Mining Co.'s group of claims, in the Windy Hollow district, this week. No particulars were learned, except that it was the richest strike ever made in that district.

Mail Service Expedited.

The protest entered last week, published in The Examiner, against the southern mail service was not born of imaginary wrong or inspired by exaggerated conditions.

The Examiner expressed the belief last week that the N. C. O. people would remedy the defect as soon as the matter was brought to their notice. That such prediction was well founded is evidenced by the following telegram, Reno Nevada, Oct. 22, 1907.

S. O. Cressler, Lakeview Ore.—Crawley advises that commencing tomorrow, Wednesday, Oct. 23, north-bound trains will go through to Lakeview, arriving there about 10:30 P. M. Advise papers. A. P. Cross.

Death of Clay Fisher.

Clay Fisher, who has resided in Lake county for many years, died at Tehama, Calif., on the 5th of this month, while enroute to San Diego, with his family, where he expected to make his future home, he having recently sold his ranch on Twelve Mile creek to his son. Clay Fisher was a native of West Virginia, born in 1843. He came to California in 1852 and to Surprise Valley in 1866, where he resided for many years. He lived in Warner, where he run sheep and goats for many years past. He leaves a wife and several children.

Decision in Contest Case.

Following is the decision of the general land office sustaining Register Watson of the Lakeview office:

Department of the Interior. Peter Peterson vs James N. Dennis. Involving entry under the Timber and Stone Act. Contest dismissed. Affirmed.

Register and Receiver. Lakeview Oregon.

Sirs:—It appears from the record that the land in controversy was opened to entry on September 22, 1906, and on that day James N. Dennis filed timber and stone application No. 3291 for the W½ NW¼ and W½ SW¼ Sec. 8, tp. 29, S., Range 12, E., W.M. On November 1, 1906, Peter Peterson initiated a contest against said applicant alleging:

"That said James N. Dennis filed on said land after I had commenced improvements and settlement, and I posted notices claiming this land on the 14th day of September, 1906, as a homestead, and J. N. Dennis' filing conflicts with my application as to said tract."

Pursuant to notice both parties with counsel appeared before you on Jan. 10, 1907, and tendered testimony.

On March 27, 1907, you rendered divided opinions. The receiver recommended that the timber and stone application be rejected and that Peter Peterson be allowed to file homestead entry for the land in controversy. The register recommended that the contest be dismissed and that Dennis be allowed to perfect his timber and stone application. Peterson appealed.

It appears from the testimony in behalf of the plaintiff that he went upon the land in controversy on Sept. 13, 1906, and looked it over, and on the following day he posted notices of his intention to homestead the land, at the corners thereof, and laid the foundation for a house, which was completed three days thereafter. The house, 12 by 16 feet, is built of logs, covered with sawed lumber, and it has two half-windows, a door and floor in it.

Plaintiff claims that he staid there until September 27, 1906. There is no testimony tendered to show that plaintiff had any furniture nor household goods in the house, except some bed clothing, nor that he ever returned to the land after leaving there on Sept. 27, 1906.

In behalf of Plaintiff there is no testimony as to the quality of the soil, the timber thereon, nor as to the situation or altitude of the land.

From the testimony in behalf of the Defendant it appears that the land in controversy is situated at an altitude of more than 5500 feet and is "light pumice stone land," unfit for agricultural purposes, if cleared of the timber thereon; that the tract is covered with a growth of pine timber which will cut between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 feet of lumber, board measure, worth \$3,000 as it stands; that it would cost more than \$150 to clear the tract for agricultural purposes, and that the land would not be of any value for agricultural purposes if cleared of the timber thereon and made ready for cultivation, because of its poor quality.

Defendant examined the land on Sept. 14, 1906, but he saw no improvements thereon, nor any indication that any person claimed it.

It is clear from the testimony that the land involved is chiefly valuable for its timber at the present time, and it would never be of much value for agricultural purposes when cleared of the timber, and the testimony submitted by the contestant is not sufficient to warrant the finding that his improvements were made in good faith for the purpose of making his home on the land. His improvements will not prevent the purchase of the tract as timber land.

See Miller vs McMillen, 161, L. D. 160; Burnett vs Twiddle, 16, L. D. 400.

This office concurs in the decision of the register. The contest of Peterson, therefore, dismissed, subject to the right of appeal.

Respectfully, Fred Dennett, Ass't. Com.

Latest Railroad News.

The latest we have this week for our readers on railroads is that the Surveyors on the Lakeview-Klamath Falls line are in Drews valley making rapid headway toward Lakeview, and that the survey will be made permanent.

Also that the crew of surveyors that passed down through Warner and Surprise Valleys, intersected the Western Pacific's survey at Duck Flat, south

PRODUCTS OF DRY LAND.

Will be on Exhibit at Reno and in Utah.

OUR POTATOES CANT BE BEATEN.

Large Turnip to Go to Reno for Exhibition there in the Best Pavillion on the Coast.

The sample of big, dry-land potatoes raised by Mr. E. L. Rains on the Sol Hammersley place, four miles west of town, without a drop of water, and presented to The Examiner office a couple of weeks ago was sent this week to Utah for exhibit there. Some parties in Utah wrote to F. H. Briggs, for samples of fruit and vegetables grown in Lake county, and the ones on exhibit at this office were selected as good specimens of what can be grown in Lake county soil without a drop of water. Three-pound potatoes are not taken from every county in the world and when looked upon will attract the attention of farmers, and when put to the real test, their superior quality, rich, mealy and delicious, they are bound to bring forth praise from lovers of good potatoes. They can't be beaten anywhere, we do not care where you go. Go where you will, select the nicest, smoothest, largest, best keeping and best eating potatoes, and the dry-land potatoes of Lake county will equal, if not surpass them. "Try it".

Hannibal Morris Wingfield.

The last sad rites were performed over the body of Hannibal Morris Wingfield, cold in death, last Sunday at the Baptist Church, at 2 o'clock P. M., conducted by Rev. C. P. Bailey, assisted by Rev. J. A. Armstrong. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity with sympathizing friends and relatives of deceased. Burial took place in the I. O. O. F. cemetery, amidst a large crowd who followed the remains to the last resting place.

Morris Wingfield was born Dec. 20, 1868, died Sept. 24, 1907, the body being lost in a slough for 24 days.

He leaves a beloved wife, two children, one born the day following his disappearance, an aged mother, one sister, of this place, and two brothers, George and Sam of Goldfield, Nevada. He was practically raised in this valley and "grew up with the country," so the saying is. Here he played in childhood, developed into manhood, here he married and established a home, here his busy life was spent, his battles fought, his faithful services rendered to the world. To him the struggle and burden bearing of the earth are ended, and we confidently trust that like one who awakes from a troubled dream he has awakened to see life's endless morning break and knows himself at home with all the vast throng of loved ones, missed from earth, safely beside him. His home instincts were strong here in this fevered world of disappointment. His affection for friends and kindred was tender and abiding. He ranked among us as a good citizen, a kind and devoted husband, a good neighbor and friend, and above all a man of heroic mould in meeting the stern requirements of life. He is still the father of the children upon whom he doted with such clinging fondness, and the companion still of her who mourns earth's greatest loss.

The Examiner extends sincerest sympathy to the family of deceased.



Andrew Carnegie is going to give \$10,000,000 to start a university in Chicago.—News Item.

The Nation's Poor: "And I can't even feel the heat from it." —Naughton in Duluth Tribune.