

MILLIONS IN DIAMONDS.

Enormous Increase in the Production Since the Discoveries in Africa.

The discovery and working of the great South African mines have enormously increased the production of diamonds. During the last quarter century ten tons of these gems, selling for \$300,000,000 uncut and for \$800,000,000 after cutting, have been added to the world's wealth.

The cutting of diamonds is carried on in the United States by fifteen firms, employing 150 cutters, cleaners and polishers. The American public demands a much higher quality of cutting than is required by European markets.

She Spoke Too Soon.

In front of Trinity Church a stylishly dressed young woman stepped from the sidewalk directly in front of a team of heavy horses attached to a well-loaded truck.

She, all unconscious of her dangerous predicament, turned on the young man sharply with an indignant, "How dare you, sir," and looked as if she was contemplating an assault on him with her parasol.

The young fellow looked surprised, and then, taking off his hat, bowed and with an "Excuse me, madam," passed on with his friend.

She turned toward the street again, and for the first time observed the truck which now stood in her path.

"That dude saved your life, lady; why don't you scratch his eyes out?"

The woman, for the first time realizing her narrow escape, hurried after the rapidly disappearing youths, who had nearly reached Hector street by that time.

"Don't mention it, please, the pleasure is entirely mine, I assure you," was the response.

"Heavily queer things these girls are, Harvey," said one to the other as they disappeared in the arcade leading to the L. station.—Commercial Advertiser.

John Jacob Astor.

All New York society is agog over the social diversions devised by John Jacob Astor, says the Philadelphia Press.

A wonderful experiment was shown by Mrs. Astor lately, when she held aloft an arc light which she brightened and subdued at will, as if it was a gas jet.

Attempt to Recall Seditious

DULUTH, Minn., March 5.—An attempt to railroad through the city council a scheme embracing a \$500,000 seal and the attempted bribing of nearly all the aldermen has just come to light and has created a sensation throughout the city.

Last fall John Clide submitted a proposition of the city council looking to the construction of a pumping station, a water main extension and a duplicate of the present plant owned by the city, and asked the city to award him the contract at \$800,000 without advertising for bids.

One of the bondsmen on the contract offered was W. J. Holmes. This proposition was defeated, and it is generally considered that the scheme was dead for all time to come.

Will be Supplied With Seed Grain.

YANKTON, S. D., March 5.—Two hundred Yankton county farmers appeared before the county board of commissioners yesterday and applied for wheat, oats and barley seed for spring planting.

Indians Should Pay Taxes.

WICHITA, Kas., March 5.—The attempt of the authorities of Payne county, Oklahoma, to levy a tax upon the Indians who occupy allotments within the county has aroused an opposition which is almost equal to rebellion.

Ready to Strike.

PITTSBURG, March 5.—The district convention of coal miners held here yesterday voted to demand the restoration of the 90 cent rate and will strike to secure it.

Judgment Sustained.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Two cases involving claims made against the United States by the late Gen. Hiram Berdan for the use of breech-loading firearms inventions patented by him, were decided by the United States supreme court yesterday.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., March 6.

Never before, perhaps, in the annals of a murder trial in this country has the single spectacle been presented of a juror being carried into the courtroom and deposited upon a cot bed.

This was the condition of Juror Over yesterday morning when he was brought in an ambulance to the criminal court and borne by his fellow jurors upstairs. Harry Hayward, when he came into the courtroom, looked so pale and ill that he was the subject of general comment.

County Attorney Nye, closing for the state, made a stirring speech to the jury. Among other things he said: "A power greater than man has ever been at work upon the human conscience.

"Let them make all they can out of the bloody buggy, the way the body lay and such things," cried the speaker with a dramatic sweep of his right arm.

PAINTS A DARK PICTURE.

At the afternoon session Mr. Nye again took up the matter of Hayward's loan to Miss Ginz and commented sharply on the sincerity of Harry, whose first remark when he heard of the murder was: "All my money has gone to hell."

Shot at the Negroes.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 6.—Considerable excitement was caused in Auburn, twenty-five miles from here, by the seat of the late agricultural and mechanical college, Sunday night by a fusillade of pistol shots at a colored bawdy near the college.

Child Burned to Death.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 6.—Mrs. Byron Birdsell of No. 55 Hayley street went away yesterday morning, leaving her three children alone in the house.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., March 7.

Mr. Erwin resumed his address for the defense in the Hayward trial as follows: "What will you do with Bixt's incredible, unreliable testimony? You will place no credence in it.

"If this were an ordinary case I could not resist the temptation to satire. I would raise before this jury the attempt to defy the red-handed murderer and perjurer, Claus Bixt.

Then he continued: "In the last few years of these modern times every effort has been made by past powers and classes to make the jury simply one of the aids of public prosecution.

Then the bloody clothing was exhibited to the jury and the attorney proceeded as follows: "Did she bleed before death? I look at that shirt front. Did she bleed from the nose? Let her blood tell you.

TELLTALE BLOOD SPOTS.

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BITTER AGAINST BIXT.

Mr. Erwin was bitter in his arraignment of Bixt and made a savage assault upon his character. Continuing, he said: "Now, at the first blush, in the ordinary cares of life, in reference to a man of Bixt's character, if he should make charges against one of your neighbors, you would not ordinarily believe a word of it.

CHARGES ADREY WITH MURDER.

Then he turned his attention to Adrey Hayward and directly charged him with being one of the murderers. The green goods story scoffed at and Mr. Erwin asked if the whole jury had daft to believe such a piece of testimony as that, that she had gone into a scheme to go after green goods with such a looking thing as Bixt.

Meeting of Iowa Miners.

DES MOINES, Ia., March 7.—The largest and most representative meeting of coal mine operators ever held in Iowa is in session here, but no definite results have been reached on any subject before it.

Bank Closes Its Doors.

TEXARKANA, Ark., March 7.—The First National bank of this city closed its doors yesterday and Examiner Nelson is in charge. The condition of the books is not known.

The Knout Banished.

BERLIN, March 7.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to the Lokal Anzeiger says that an imperial edict has been issued abolishing the use of the knout. Hitherto the peasantry have been completely at the mercy of the local judges.

A Cashier's Committee Suicide.

WORCHESTER, Mass., March 8.—Henry A. Wing, cashier of the Grafton Savings bank, committed suicide by shooting himself with a pistol in his barn about 1:30 yesterday morning.

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STATE NEWS ITEMS.

The lies is all out of the Missouri River.

The mayor will not be so handy with his pardons in the future.

Wymora wants the encampment of the university cadets this spring.

The soldiers' homes at Grand Island will shortly be supplied with incandescent lights.

Not a man in Madison county who planted sugar beet last year has been a candidate for relief.

The annual meeting of the East Nebraska conference of the United Brethren in Christ will be held at Blue Springs, March 29.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Cotterell of North Bend have been married fifty years and have celebrated the event with befitting ceremonies.

People from Stanton and Pierce counties drive to Norfolk every evening to attend the meetings at the Methodist Episcopal church.

L. L. May & Co. of St. Paul, Minn., donated 150 pounds of garden seeds to the drought-stricken farmers of the Sixth congressional district.

James McKeegan, prominent farmer of Cumming county, has sold his lands in Bancroft and Cleveland townships for an average price of \$35 an acre.

John A. MacMurphy talks French to the people of Beatrice in his salutatory as editor of the Beatrice Times.

An effort is being made, and a meeting will soon be held at Norfolk, to arrange for a circuit of fairs this fall, including Antelope, Pierce, Knox, Madison and Boone counties.

The chief of the Nebraska City fire department has asked the city council to purchase a chemical engine.

The mayor and police judge of Nebraska City came very near having trouble because the chief executive took the liberty of pardoning prisoners whom the police judge wanted held.

The management of the Blair cannery factory has decided to put up corn and peas this year.

The Brokenbow relief association expects to raise money in Chicago with which to purchase the seed and feed needed for the spring trouble.

Work on the new Creighton theatre at Omaha began Wednesday morning.

Henry Gentrup of West Point received a paper this week from Germany that was recovered from the unfortunate Elbe's mail.

Seth Mobley says that the piano used in the Nebraska building at the world's fair was loaned to the state by the manufacturer and afterward presented to the Grand Island school by that gentleman, and Seth ought to know.

G. L. Shumway, proprietor of the Coatsburg Review and formerly of Banner county, has been compelled to abandon the newspaper business on account of failing health.

Dr. Walter Maxwell, who was the director of the beet sugar experiment station at Schuyler until it was abolished, will shortly leave for the Sandwich islands to take charge of the agricultural bureau and experimental station of the islands.

Representative Dick Jenness of Douglas county has just purchased the Atkinson Graphic and when the legislature adjourns he will remove to Atkinson and mould thought in the most approved style.

Frank Fields of Nebraska City has purchased the grocery business of O. N. Watson on this place, taking possession this morning.

The team of Fred Hoesfeker, a German farmer living near Battle Creek, became frightened and made a sudden turn, throwing him violently to the earth.

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