

DAKOTA COUNTY HERALD.

State Historical Society

MOTTO—All The News When It Is News.

VOL. 20.

DAKOTA CITY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1912.

NO. 51.

HARD LUCK STORIES

TOLD IN MATTER OF EQUALIZING FARM LAND VALUES.

STATE BANKING BOARD ACTS

Governor Says State Board Must Raise Enough Revenue to Pay Legislative Appropriations.

The proposal of the state board of assessment to equalize farm land values between counties by increasing the assessed values of lands in fifty-one counties and reducing values in seven counties, resulted in the biggest row over ever held before a state board in Nebraska, says the Lincoln Journal.

The state board proposes to increase the assessed values in fifty-one counties from 5 to 20 per cent. The objections that poured in upon the board were almost as numerous as the counties in the list and some of the seven counties whose valuations are to be reduced from 5 to 10 asked for greater reduction.

It was one continual round of hard luck stories and oceans of worthless land. "I never knew that Nebraska was such a poverty stricken state, and that it contained so much worthless land," said one who heard the assessors object to an increase in assessed valuations. "I am almost afraid to remain longer in the state after hearing of the amount of worthless land and crop failures. And to think that one can buy in Richardson county for from \$1 to \$10 an acre land that is covered with timber and is suitable for fruit growing."

Occasionally an assessor or county attorney or county commissioner would admit that much of the land in their counties had been valued for assessment at \$125 or \$150, but the general tenor of their remarks was "poor land," and opposition to an increased valuation.

The stories were in contrast to those told by witnesses called by railroad companies before the state railway commission's physical valuation department. Before that department, where railroads desire to boost the value of their right of way witnesses state that there is no poor land in sight and that values run considerably over \$100.

Almost in vain did Governor Aldrich preach to the county officers present the theory that the state board must equalize to obtain anything like equality in counties and that if assessed values are increased, the state board will decrease the state levy one mill and county boards can decrease the percentage of levy so that taxpayers need not pay any more money on their lands than they paid last year.

Some assessors contended that county boards would be to blame if they did not reduce levies in the face of an increased assessed valuation, but asserted that many local assessing boards would fail to do so and the result would be an increase in the amount of money collected for taxes.

Governor Aldrich said the state board must raise enough revenue to pay the appropriations made by the legislature and county boards must look after the needs of counties and school districts, but that with an increased valuation the tax levies could be reduced and only enough money raised to pay the expenses of the state and local governments and nobody would be hurt. He said if levies are not reduced in the face of an increased valuation of lands, the local boards and not the state board will be to blame.

Griff Evans, county assessor of Adams county, objecting to an increase of 10 per cent in land values in his county, which would bring the average per acre up to \$61.03, plainly said when the political effect was mentioned that he felt that if he was responsible for the increase in his county he would expect to be wiped from the political map.

Second Regiment Camp.

Orders have been issued from the office of the adjutant general for an encampment of the companies of the Second regiment at Grand Island on August 21, to remain until August 28. All companies of that regiment except G of Omaha and K of Schuyler will comprise the camp.

Prominent Educator Dead.

C. M. Penny, a member of the teachers' state examination board and a prominent Nebraska educator, died at his home in Lincoln. He had been ill for several months and was unable to attend to his duties for eleven weeks preceding his death.

The Green Bug Pest.

According to Assistant State Entomologist Myron H. Swenk, the green bugs said to be destroying the corn crops in the vicinity of Fremont, belong in all probability to a species of plant lice which has been known in Nebraska for some time. Reports from Fremont are to the effect that the pests are killing off the corn at an alarming rate. Small green bugs attacked the wheat in some parts of Nebraska in the Spring of 1907, but it is believed that they were of a different species than present pests.

ROAD MAKES APPEAL.

Union Pacific Seeks Reversal of Shippers' Damages.

The Union Pacific railway company has filed in the office of the clerk of the supreme court an appeal from the district court of Dawson county in a case wherein Robert W. Ralston, a stock shipper, had obtained two judgments against the company for injuries to stock shipped from Utah.

Mr. Ralston sets forth in district court that he shipped two cars of live stock, one to Lexington and the other to Willow Island, in Nebraska. That the usual amount of time required to carry the stock from Denver to Lexington is twenty-five hours but that the stock was kept on the road sixty-one hours. He says that on account of a hole under the door of the car six of the cattle had caught their legs therein and had them broken, while seven others were seriously injured because of the rough handling of the cars. He asked damages in the sum of \$500.

The second car was en route from Denver to Willow Island, fifty-eight hours, when twenty-four hours was the usual time consumed. Three head of cattle in that car were killed and one had a hip broken, besides other damages. He asked for \$500 damages in that case.

In the first case the jury awarded Mr. Ralston the full amount asked, with interest, which made the judgment \$536.64, while in the second case they gave him in all \$184.40. The company appeals to the supreme court.

Special Sunday Rates.

In answer to a letter sent by Secretary of State Wait to L. W. Wakeley asking for special service or cheap rates on Sunday before the opening of the state fair so that people coming to the fair can get there in time to attend the unveiling of the Abraham Lincoln statue, Mr. Wait received the following letter from Mr. Wakeley:

Mr. Mayor and I had a talk about train service. As the result of this I have added more specials from the state into Lincoln Tuesday. You understand that people can come to Lincoln on as cheap railroad fare on Sunday as on Monday, or subsequent days; the rate every day is 2 cents a mile in each direction. Our regular train service into Lincoln on Sunday is ample from all populous territory. We have Sunday trains on all main lines into Lincoln from every direction. There is only certain branch line territory not served by Sunday trains into Lincoln. The only section from which passengers cannot reach Lincoln before Monday is from north of Aurora, but that country is so distant that I would have to start special trains from up there long before daylight in order to reach Lincoln in the forenoon. We do not initiate Sunday special excursions; we desire to give our crews their Sunday rest. But in the case at hand, there is practically no need of our running Sunday trains as our many regular trains into Lincoln will take care of over 90 per cent of any possible Sunday travel.

Close Call for Metcalfe.

According to J. L. McBrien of Lincoln, who returned from the progressive convention at Chicago, R. L. Metcalfe of Lincoln might have been considered as Colonel Roosevelt's running mate had his consent been obtained.

Adjutant General Back.

Lieutenant F. C. Test and Adjutant General Phelps returned from the Pole Mountain maneuvers with the guard. The trip was a successful one and very beneficial to the guard. The march of eighteen miles from Pole Mountain to Laramie, where the guard took the train, was made in five hours and forty minutes. The boys stood it pretty well, only six men falling out and taking the ambulance. However, some of the boys had their feet somewhat blistered.

Banking Board Acts.

The state banking board has taken official notice that in some states professional promoters are going about organizing new banks on the commission plan and then departing for new fields to earn more commissions for getting stock subscriptions. No such instances in Nebraska have come to the notice of the board, but at its last meeting it adopted a resolution instructing Secretary Royse to withhold charters where it is found that their organization has been effected by methods incompatible with safe banking.

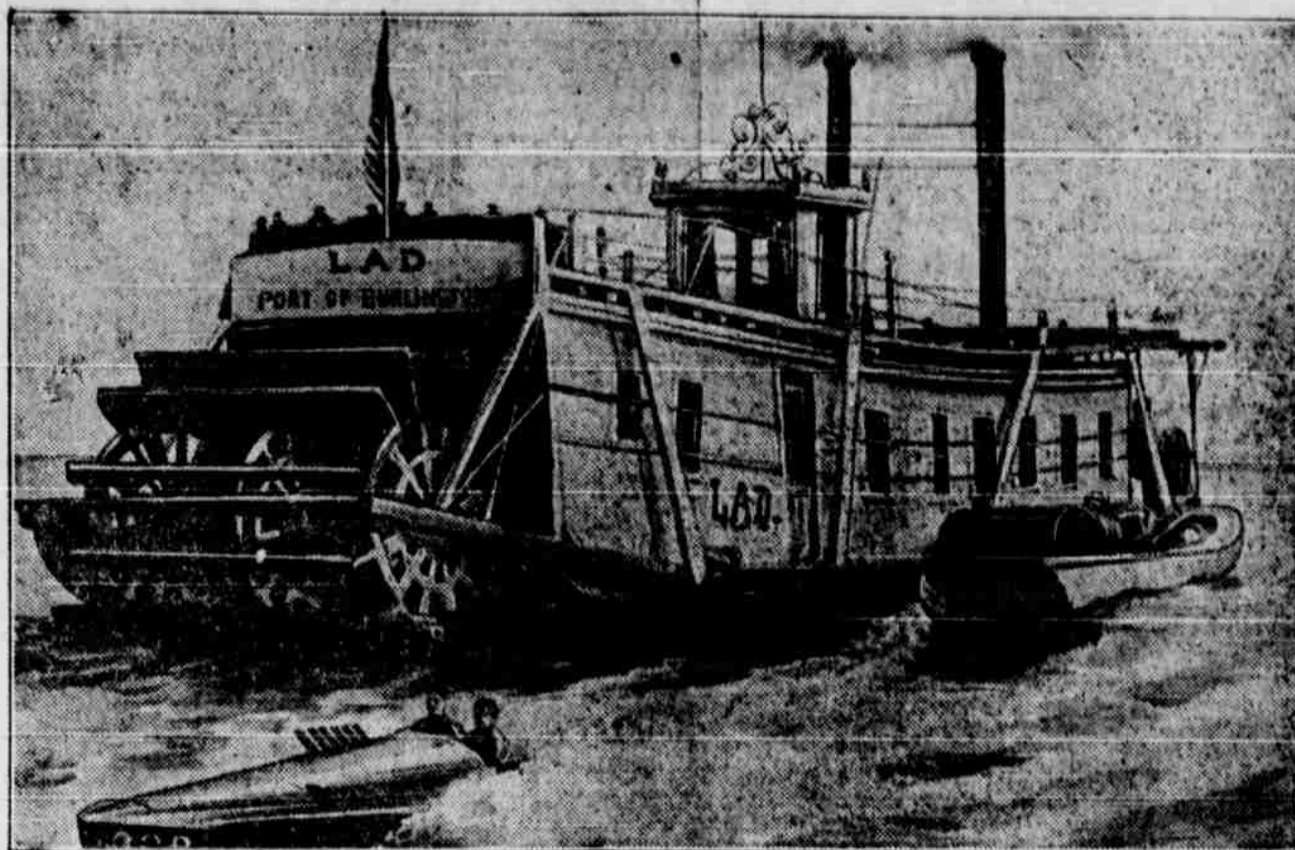
No Troops at County Fairs.

The county fairs of the state of Nebraska will not be supplied with cavalry troops for exhibitions this fall, as many of them have expected. A recent order from Washington orders the cavalry troops of Fort Robinson and Fort Meade to take part in the maneuvers at Hot Springs during the first week in September. These are the two fairs from which the various county fairs had been expected to secure detachments.

Pardon Denied.

J. W. Connell, alias W. T. Dorson, sent up from Douglas county on a charge of robbery in April, 1909, has made application to the Board of Pardon for a pardon and the same has been denied. Connell is a brother-in-law of Charles Morley, connected with the outbreak at the penitentiary last spring, and was sent up for holding up Louis Parsley at his place of business in Omaha. Parsley was forced at the point of a gun to hand over \$120 in cash, and in addition an overcoat which was identified.

MISSISSIPPI PACKET ON LAKE MICHIGAN



ONE of the interesting sights at the water carnival, recently held at Chicago, was the "Lad" a miniature reproduction of the Mississippi river packets. Its owner and captain is Dr. J. W. Nixon of Burlington, Iowa, and his family have been cruising all over the Mississippi river system in the little boat. "Lad" is a converted towboat with gasoline motor, the smokestacks being only ornaments. The boat measures 67 feet in length.

DIE IN CLOUDBURST

STORM CAUSES DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN MICHIGAN AND INDIANA

WASH AWAY SEVEN BRIDGES

Railroad Tracks Inundated—Big \$1,000,000 Dam Breaks—Three Men Struck by Lightning—Fourteen Inches of Rain is Recorded.

Niles, Mich., Aug. 20.—Confined in its devastating effects to an area within a radius of three miles of this city, a phenomenally heavy cloudburst Sunday caused the death of two persons, injuries to many others, washed out seven railway bridges, destroyed miles of railroad tracks, stopped street car traffic in Niles and other towns, held up trains of the Big Four and the Michigan Central and did hundreds of thousands of dollars damage.

Fourteen inches of rain fell in Niles and the neighborhood. The following were killed by lightning:

Otto Seaver, thirty-four years old; farmer near Niles.

Billwock, seventy years old; farmer near Niles.

Charles W. Husher, a railroad official from South Bend, was driving near here in an automobile with three expert linemen when the entire party was struck by lightning. Husher and the three linemen were severely injured and rendered unconscious.

Atweham Harrod of Niles was also struck by lightning and rendered unconscious while he was driving his machine on the highway on the road to South Bend.

The million-dollar dam of the Chappa Power company on the St. Joseph river, which was erected recently by Chicago capitalists for the purpose of supplying electric power to South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart and St. Joseph, threatens to break and hundreds of men with sandbags endeavored to save it.

Other hundreds of workmen worked desperately to save the big dam built by the city of Niles, which supplies power for the electric lighting and traction companies.

All the bridges on the Big Four and Michigan Central railroads for a distance of three miles east and west of this city have been destroyed by the cloudburst, and scores of freight cars have been swept into the St. Joseph river. The Michigan Central railroad yards, covering six acres, are under water.

The dam of the Cantrell Flour company at Niles burst, and the mill and other buildings for half a mile around were flooded.

Nine cars full of animals and effects belonging to the Tiger Bill circus, which was to appear at Benton Harbor, is stalled in three feet of water near here.

Interurban street car service between Niles and St. Joseph and other towns is entirely stopped. Great damage has been done to telephone and telegraph wires.

Gets Cash in Bold Day Theft.

Toledo, O., Aug. 21.—Nearly \$1,000, mostly in currency, and the rest in checks, was fished from the office of the Detroit and Cleveland Navigation company office here Monday in a bold daylight robbery. An hour later the robber returned \$100 to the company through a third person.

Volcano of Stromboli Imperils Island.

Messina, Italy, Aug. 19.—The volcano of Stromboli is in violent eruption and the inhabitants of the island of Stromboli are panic-stricken. Terrific showers of ashes were pouring from the volcano's four mouths Friday.

U. S. Troops in Managua.

Managua, Nicaragua, Aug. 19.—Capt. Warren J. Terhune, commander of the United States gunboat Annapolis, with a force of American marines composed of 11 officers and 254 men, arrived in the capital Friday.

U. S. SUES "TRUST"

MOVING PICTURE CONCERNS NAMED IN ACTION FILED.

Combine Accused of Overstepping the Bounds of the Lawful Monopoly Granted Them.

Philadelphia, Aug. 19.—For the dissolution of the Motion Picture Patents company and the General Film company, the federal government attacked the so-called moving picture trust in a civil suit filed here. Ten prominent moving picture film concerns are accused of combining to monopolize the business, even to the extent of increasing or decreasing the number of motion picture theaters, in which they have no proprietary interest.

Each of the defendants is alleged to have overstepped the bounds of the lawful monopoly granted by their patents and the petition asks that several complicated interlocking license restrictions, tying patents together, be ordered canceled.

The government declares that a sum greatly in excess of \$100,000,000 has been invested in the different branches of the business.

NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Juarez, Mexico, Aug. 20.—For a few hours a Mexican Jean d'Arc was the dictator of this town. With ten rebel soldiers marching at the heels of her horse, she rode up to the police station and disarmed the provisional chief of police and six of his men. The rebels rode away mounted on the policemen's horses.

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 20.—The fashionable cottage colony at Chelsea was aroused again on learning that \$120,000 worth of jewels were stolen from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter K. Klemm.

Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Aug. 20.—With 6,000 troops in the field, supplied with thousands of rounds of blank ammunition which will be used when the Red and Blue armies meet, the biggest mimic war ever held in this state began on Monday. The maneuvers will continue for ten days.

EX-CONVICT IN A NEW START

Councilman of Philadelphia Who Told of Prison Term Will Return to Position.

Philadelphia, Aug. 20.—William Burke, common councilman and ex-convict, who, to escape the blackmail of a former prison mate, confessed his criminal career and fled, will return to this city within a week.

Encouraging words and offers to assist him regain an honorable position in the community made by Mayor Blankenburg and other prominent city officials are responsible for his decision to again look the world in the face.

"After weeks of sleeplessness and terror I at last feel like a man," said Burke to a correspondent at his place of seclusion. "No longer pursued by the fear of exposure and the consequences to myself and family, I will be able to devote my best energies to gaining an honest livelihood."

Taft Signs Pension Bill.

Washington, Aug. 20.—President Taft's first official act Saturday was to sign the \$160,000,000 pension appropriation bill. The pension office through telegraph orders to the eighteen outlying agencies to start payment.

Panama Crash Sinks Ship.

Panama, Aug. 20.—Part of the new American wharf collapsed here Sunday and two electric cranes fell on the Pacific mail steamer Newport, causing it to sink. Blasting had weakened the pier's foundations.

SUSPECTS ARE SLAIN

MEXICAN SOLDIERS EXECUTE 210 SUSPECTED OF BEING REBEL SYMPATHIZERS.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Major Rice's Command is Safe—Detachment of Third U. S. Cavalry Will Be Kept in Big Bend Country to Preserve Order.

Mexico City, Aug. 21.—Suspected of being rebel sympathizers 210 persons have been executed at Puntamoran, state of Michoacan. Accompanied by horrible barbarities, the executions have aroused protests throughout the republic, according to letters published Monday in El Imparcial, the leading daily newspaper of this city.

The victims of federal revenge were not granted trials, but were shot upon the accusation of government sympathizers and the executions were held wherever the men were caught, in their homes or in the streets.

Twelve of the victims were less than fourteen years of age and all were young men, most of whom had refused to join the federal army. The rebels, under Jose Mora, a lieutenant of Emiliano Zapata, looted the town July 12, abandoning it about August 1.

The federal authorities entered and put to death all suspects.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The Mexican government, through Ambassador Wilson, Monday promised the state department that everything possible would be done to trace and punish the parties guilty of the murder of Rowan Ayres, the young Cincinnati civil engineer, who was found beheaded in Central Mexico last week. Ayres' body will be sent back to the United States at the expense of the Mexican government.

Brigadier General Steever assured the war department of the safety of Maj. Sedgwick Rice and his detachment of the Third cavalry sent into the Big Bend country in New Mexico to prevent smuggling and who were in danger of being attacked by 1,500 Mexican rebels across the river. Major Rice's detachment has been reinforced and will be kept at its present post for some time.

ASTOR BABY IS EXPENSIVE

Reported Doctor Is Paid \$1,000 Day, Making \$45,000 for Care of Mother and Child.

New York, Aug. 19.—John Jacob Astor VI is reported to be the most expensive baby ever brought into the world. Gossip in the medical world is that Dr. Edwin Bradford Cragin, who is responsible for the safe advent of this baby, is receiving \$1,000 a day for each day he is in attendance on Mrs. Madeleine Force Astor and her young son.

It is expected Dr. Cragin will remain a member of the Astor household until early in September, for Mrs. Astor is most anxious that her son shall be correctly started on a healthy and hearty career and that she herself shall suffer no relapse.

Dr. Cragin may be in constant attendance nearly six weeks. At the rate of \$1,000 a day his fee would total between \$40,000 and \$50,000. No heir to a princely throne ever entered the world under such expensive conditions.

Captain Kills Family and Self.

Eastbourne, England, Aug. 21.—Capt. Hicks Murray of the Gordon Highlanders killed his wife, three children and himself Monday. After shooting he poured petrol over the house floor and set fire to it.

Agree on Naval Bill.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The conference on the naval appropriation bill reached an agreement Monday to authorize the construction of one new battleship to cost \$15,000,000, inclusive of armor and armament.

DARROW IS NOT GUILTY

LAWYER MAY HAVE TO FACE SECOND INDICTMENT.

Remarkable Demonstration in Court, in Which Judge, Jury and Spectators Participate.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 20.—Clarence S. Darrow, Chicago lawyer, was acquitted by a jury here Saturday of the charge of having attempted to corrupt a prospective juror in the McNamara murder trial. This was the second count in the indictment, the first charging the bribery of George N. Lockwood, being dismissed by Judge Hutton in his instructions to the jury.

Another indictment remains against Darrow, charging the bribery of Robert F. Bain, the first juror sworn in the McNamara case.

It was reported immediately after the announcement of the verdict that the action practically closed the case, but District Attorney Fredericks said that the prosecution would continue.

The jury was out just 24 minutes. Although the members declared they were always of one mind, three ballots were taken, in order, as one of them said, that no "undue haste" be shown.

The first ballot was eight to four for acquittal, and the second ten to two. The third was a unanimous vote for "not guilty."

TRY TO KIDNAP SCHEPPS

New York Police Endeavor to Take Gambler-Prisoner From District Attorney Whitman.

New York, Aug. 21.—Sam Schepps, who is said to have been the paymaster of a gang which killed Herman Rosenthal, was rushed into the West side police station prison Monday after two attempts to kidnap him had been made by the New York police. Schepps has not been formally arrested, but is held as a witness. District Attorney Whitman met Schepps at Albany. On the train two detectives made a demand for the little gambler in the name of the police department. Mr. Whitman replied that he would indict the first man who laid hands on Schepps and the detectives left the train.

Schepps was taken off the train at the Grand Central station. At Forty-third street Captain Gillen and Detectives Dietrich, Hauser, McMahon and Gallagher, all Central office men, attempted to drag Schepps from a taxicab, but Whitman interfered and the gambler was brought safely to a cell in the same balcony with Louis Libby and Jack Sullivan, better known as Jacob Reich.

On the way from Albany Schepps talked freely with the district attorney.

It was learned that Schepps admitted that he saw the murderers paid for killing Rosenthal. He declared that he was fully familiar with all the details of the murder plot. He accused Police Lieutenant Becker of being implicated in the plot. His statement is said to support perfectly that of Rose, Webber and Vallon.

PASS PANAMA CANAL BILL

Senate Refuses to Adopt Steel and Wool Measures Over Veto of President Taft.

Washington, Aug. 19.—The senate agreed Friday to the conference report on the Panama canal bill by a vote of 48 to 18 and refused to pass the steel and wool bills over the president's veto.

It took but a few minutes to test the feeling in the senate in regard to passing the metal bill over the veto, the vote being 29 to 22.

The vote on the wool bill veto was 36 to 26. Six Republicans voted with the Democrats. They were: Bristol, Ciapp, Crawford, Poindexter, Works and La Follette.

The Democrats agreed by a vote of 143 to 86 to a substitute offered by Chairman Moon of the postoffice committee, creating an experimental parcels post system in lieu of the permanent "zone system," which was offered in the senate by Senator Bourne and passed.

The house by a vote of 138 to 78 declined to pass over the veto of President Taft the bill compensating certain subcontractors in Wyoming for government work.

Five Killed Two Hurt by Train. Cumberland, Md., Aug. 20.—A Baltimore and Ohio passenger train struck an outlying party of eight on the Western Maryland railway extension one mile west of Frostburg station, near the Borden water station, killing five and injuring two.

Three Killed in Auto Accident. White House, N. J., Aug. 19.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Horling of Huntington Valley, Pa., and their chauffeur, John Kilroy, were killed Friday when their automobile turned turtle at Graybrook, two miles from here.

Noted Hymn Writer Dead.

Philadelphia, Aug. 16.—William Gustav Fischer, known throughout the world wherever the Christian religion is to be found, died at his home, 203 North Thirty-sixth street, Wednesday, after a brief illness.

Edwin Austin Abbey Left \$134,050.

New York, Aug. 17.—Edwin Austin Abbey, the American artist, who died in London on August 1, 1911, left an estate valued at \$134,050. His widow, May Gertrude Abbey, is the sole legatee.



HALL WON MEDAL OF HONOR

Made Daring Attempt to Rescue Lieutenant Weir and Scout From Attack of Ute Indians.

Adjutant-General William P. Hall, who retired from active service last February, was a West Pointer and the holder of a medal of honor. General Hall entered the military academy in 1864, graduating four years later and being assigned to the Nineteenth Infantry as a second lieutenant. In March, 1869, he was placed on the list of unassigned officers, where he remained until July in that year, when he was assigned to the Fifth cavalry. It was while he was with that regiment that he received his medal of honor, in the fall of 1879 a force of Ute Indians surrounded a small detachment of regulars in the White River country. For three days and three nights the soldiers held off the Indians. Rescue came finally, and the Indians made way before the charge of Colonel Merritt and his men, who had made a record ride to the aid of the beleaguered troops.

A day or two after the retreat of the Ute Lieutenant William B. Weir, ordnance department, and a scout left the camp on a deer hunt. Not long after their departure, Lieutenant Hall with three men were ordered out on a reconnaissance. The lieutenant and his little command circled through the mountains for several hours and in the afternoon they heard a succession of shots. They struck out for the spot from which the firing came. On rounding the shoulder of the valley Lieutenant Hall saw at a little distance across the open space a band of at least forty Utes. The officer saw that Lieutenant Weir and the scout had been surprised and had taken to a rocky ledge. Lieutenant Hall sent four shots into the ranks of the Utes, making them change their shelter. The lieutenant knew that if he could



Stood Up at Full Length on the Rock.

draw the fire of all the Indians at once that Lieutenant Weir and his companion might make a dash toward him while the rifles of the Indians were unloaded.

Lieutenant Hall stood up at full length on the rock. The Utes saw him and the Indians emptied their rifles at him. Lieutenant Weir and the scout dashed out from their shelter the instant that the Utes had left drive at Lieutenant Hall. They made half the distance to their comrades before the Indians had reloaded. Then the two dropped behind a rock and waited. The Indians did not again respond to the fire of Lieutenant Hall's command. Then the lieutenant stood on the rock once more facing the Utes. Lieutenant Weir and the scout dashed out—but the Indians had learned the trick. One-half of the Indian band turned their guns at Lieutenant Hall. The other half fired at Weir and the scout, both of whom fell dead, while Lieutenant Hall escaped unharmful. Then they attacked Lieutenant Hall and his three comrades, who retreated slowly from cover to cover, holding their assailants in check until the shooting was heard at the camp and a body of men rode out to the rescue and the Utes fled. Lieutenant Hall was given a medal of honor for his gallantry.

All of his services was in the west until appointed an assistant adjutant-general with the rank of major in November, 1893. He had been a member of the department, division, army, and distinguished marksmen teams between 1879 and 1892, and won medals upon all these teams, shooting with carbine and revolver. He left the department of Texas in April, 1898, where he had been adjutant general, to go to the department of the Gulf at Atlanta, and in February, 1899, he was sent to the department of Porto Rico. He went to the department of the Lakes in 1901, and the Philippines division in 1902. He became lieutenant-colonel in 1897, colonel in 1901, and brigadier general in 1904.

A Correction.

When "Scotty," of the Eighty-fifth Massachusetts, was captured the rebels disarmed him, and one said: "If you move ye're a dead man." "Ye're wrong there," said Scotty, "If I mov' I'm a live one."