

LOUP CITY NORTHWESTERN.

VOL. XVII.

LOUP CITY, SHERMAN COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1900.

NUMBER 37.

CHINA IS OUR FRIEND

And Wants Us to Help in Settling Her Perplexing Difficulties.

NO ANSWER HAS YET BEEN MADE

State Department is Proceeding Upon the Theory that Legates Are Alive—Points of Difference Between State Department and European Powers.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—President McKinley has received what purports to be an appeal from the Chinese imperial government to use his good offices to extricate that government from the difficult position in which it has been placed as a result of the Boxer uprising and ensuing hostile attitude of the great powers. Although the exact text of the appeal made by the emperor of China to France, as outlined in the cable dispatches of yesterday had not been made known it is known that the address to the president is similar in terms to that communication. In our case the communication was made through Minister Wu to the state department.

Thus far a final answer has not been returned. The French government answered at once, but that answer will not serve us. The United States government is conscientiously proceeding upon an entirely different line of policy in the treatment of the case. Unfortunately the state department finds itself alone in this, but nevertheless it is convinced that its plan is the best and it has behind it the consolidated assurance that at present all of the European governments have tacitly admitted that an error was made in the beginning in not following the common sense advice of the Taku.

The point of difference between the state department and the European governments is that the latter are proceeding upon the belief that all the foreign ministers and missionaries having guards at Peking have been killed and insist upon dealing with the Chinese situation on that basis, thereby assuming a hostile attitude that ends to destroy the last chance of availing of whatever friendly sentiment may yet exist among the powerful Chinese viceroys and the imperial government itself. Thus, the French reply, as indicated in the four conditions laid down by M. Delcasse yesterday, sets an impossible task for the imperial government in its present straits and tends to drive it at once to make terms with the Boxers and Prince Tuan's party.

On the other hand the government of the United States, while not guaranteeing the truth of the advice from the Chinese government as to the safety of the foreign ministers, is willing to accept the statements temporarily, in the meantime remitting none of its efforts to get access to Mr. Conger through the use of military force if need be. By following out this policy the state department argues that it has two chances instead of one. It may reach Mr. Conger with troops and it also may secure his deliverance through the friendly offices of some of the powerful Chinese officials, which the powers are not likely to obtain for their own people by following out their present policy. It may be stated also that the United States government, has not and does not intend to relinquish any part of its claim for compensation and reparation in the ultimate settlement. Its position in that respect, it holds, will not be affected unfavorably by prosecuting its efforts to make use of the friendly sentiments of the Chinese officials.

Seeks to Appense William.

PARIS, July 23.—The Berlin correspondent of the Temps asserts: "It is asserted in Berlin that the emperor of China has sent a telegram to Emperor William deploring the assassination of Baron von Ketteler by the rebels and declaring that the murderers are being actively sought and will be punished. He also expresses a hope that the relations of China with Germany would not suffer from this state of things."

HEAVIEST ARTILLERY TO GO.

Seventh Battery Receives Rush Orders to the Orient.

FORT RILEY, Kan., July 23.—Rush orders have come for the Seventh battery of heavy artillery to proceed with all haste to the Orient, calling for orders at Nagasaki. General Merriam promulgated the order in Denver. The battery was organized during the Spanish war and since that time has been idle. The equipment embraces the heaviest caliber guns in the service, with a full complement of mortars, attended by 250 men and ten officers.

Has No Faith in Conger Dispatch.

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 23.—Mr. N. Lovatt, who has spent forty years in the customs service in China, is in the city. In an interview today Mr. Lovatt declared his absolute disbelief in the authority of the telegram received at Washington, signed by Minister Conger. He believes the last authentic information from any of the legation was the message from the British legation, countersigned by Sir Robert Hart, and dated June 13. Mr. Lovatt says that Sir Robert Hart was a favorite with the Chinese and the fact that no letter or message has come from him means that every foreigner in Peking has been killed.

FLICK HEADS THE TICKET.

Middle-of-the-Road Populists Take a Custer County Man.

For Governor—TAYLOR FLICK, Custer.
For Lieutenant Governor—H. G. RIGTER, Buffalo.
For Secretary of State—W. C. STARKEY, Pawnee.
For Auditor of State—SAMUEL LIGHTY, Richardson.
For Treasurer—A. TITTON, Otoe.
For Attorney General—F. STEVENS, Clay.
For Land Commissioner—JAMES SALMON, Douglas.
For Superintendent—MRS. J. T. KELLEY, Buffalo.
For Presidential Electors—JEROME SHAMP, Lancaster.
A. A. FERRY, Douglas.
JAMES BROOKS, Stanton.
DEWITT EAGER, Seward.
JAMES STOCKMAN, Custer.
C. W. RAWORTH, Douglas.
W. O. WOOLMAN, Clay.
D. F. PEARSON, Nemaha.

GRAND ISLAND, July 21.—Middle-of-the-road populist convention here nominated a state ticket (as given above), appointed a central committee, adopted a platform and formed a new political party, christening it the "populist party of Nebraska." The convention was called to order by Alfred Pawkner of Omaha and a blessing was invoked by Rev. Mr. Arthur. Mayor Platt welcomed the delegates on behalf of the city and the response was delivered by A. Sott Blodsoe of Otoe. E. F. Morearty of Omaha was chosen secretary.

Among resolutions is the following: We, the populist party of Nebraska, in convention assembled at Grand Island this 20th day of July 1900, heartily affirm the Omaha and Cincinnati platforms and enthusiastically endorse the candidacy of Wharton Barker for president and Ignatius Donnelly for vice president.

We demand an irredeemable dollar good for all debts, public and private, issued direct to the people by the government, but until such legislation is secured we are in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the existing ratio of 16 to 1.

We pledge our candidates if elected to use all existing lawful means to introduce the initiative and referendum for the conduct of state affairs and to provide such necessary legislation as may be lacking for its enforcement, but until such legislation is secured we are in favor of enacting the following: Election of president, vice president and United States senators and federal judges by the direct vote of the people.

We demand state or municipal ownership of water works, street railways, telephones and electric light service at cost to the people.

We demand an equality of assessment on all property to the end that corporations may not shift their burden of taxation to the small property owners; that the rich shall pay their just share of government taxes; that the stocks and bonds of all corporations, including railroads, banks, etc., be registered in the counties in which their value resides and assessed in said county or counties at their full selling value; that all mortgages shall be deducted from the value of property before assessment and that such assessment shall constitute a first lien upon such property assessed.

MADE SENSATION IN LONDON.

Message From Conger Revives Hope in the British Breast.

LONDON, July 21.—(New York World Cablegram.)—Minister Conger's reply to the Washington message created a tremendous sensation here, strengthening the hope of the rescue of the legation.

It is pointed out, however, that it the Chinese had taken the American legation they would have got the cipher and key in Hay's cipher, but the opinion is prevalent in the house of commons tonight that if the reply is a fraud it would have been more hopeful in order to hush the powers into a sense of security.

The example shown by America in getting information is urged for imitation by the British government, which intends to press the Chinese ambassador here to do likewise.

Marine Battalion Going.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—General Heywood, commandant of the marine corps, and Major Denny, quartermaster, were in consultation with Secretary Long at the navy department today with respect to the immediate transportation of the marine battalion about to be mobilized in this city for service in China. These marines, numbering fifteen officers and 501 men in command of Major Dickins, will leave this city next Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for San Francisco. They are scheduled to sail on the transport Hancock, which will leave San Francisco within an hour or two after their arrival, either on the 27th or 28th inst.

Plans of the Commission.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Mr. Rockhill, who has just been appointed special commissioner to China, has gone out of town to a Pennsylvania resort, but will return Monday. The developments in the Chinese situation will not affect his mission; in fact, they have rather increased its importance, for they are taken to presage an earlier settlement in China than had been expected. Mr. Rockhill accordingly will sail from San Francisco on an American steamer on August 3, taking this route instead of going by Vancouver, as he can thereby save nearly two week's time.

CONGER IS HEARD FROM

Chinese Minister Receives Reply to Message Sent to American Minister.

THE NEWS COMES IN CIPHER FORM

Authorities Express Confidence in Genuine-ness of the Message—Quick Relief Can Prevent Massacre—Legation Under Constant Shell Fire from Chinese.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Like a flash of light out of the dark sky came the intelligence at an early hour yesterday that United States Minister Conger had sent a cipher cablegram from Peking to the state department at Washington, making known that two days ago he was alive and that the foreigners were fighting for their safety. The Chinese minister, Wu Ting Fang, received the message.

It was in the state department cipher and was transmitted through the taung li yamen and the Shanghai total. It contained about fifty words and was signed in English with the name "Conger."

At 9:45 Minister Wu handed the Conger dispatch to Secretary Hay, who immediately called in his assistants and private secretary and work was begun in translating the cipher. Mr. Conger's telegram is as follows: "In British legation. Under continued shot and shell from Chinese troops. Quick relief only can prevent general massacre."

The message is not dated, but it is understood, was sent from Peking on the 8th.

The state department issued the following bulletin:

"The secretary of state received this morning a dispatch from Consul Fowler at Che Foo, dated midnight 9, saying a Shanghai paper of the 6th said all foreigners murdered. Fowler wired the governor demanding the truth. The governor replied that his courier left Peking on the 11th and all then were safe, but Peking east city had been carried by rebels with intent to kill."

Within an hour the welcome intelligence that Mr. Conger had been heard from, after weeks of silence and evil report, was flashed throughout the country, and, indeed, throughout the world, dispelling the gloom which had prevailed everywhere and bringing relief to officials and to the public generally a sense of profound relief. The dispatch was in reply to Secretary Hay's cable inquiry to Minister Conger, on July 11, and as both messages were in the American cipher code they were regarded by the officials as above the suspicion of having been tampered with in the course of transmission through Chinese channels. Mr. Wu promptly communicated the dispatch to the state department, where he translation was made from the cipher figures, and soon all Washington was astir with the intelligence.

FRIENDLINESS WILL BE TRIED.

This Expedient Will Be Our Policy With Chinese Officials.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Secretary Root this evening made the positive statement that no more troops had been ordered for Chinese service. He added:

"The chief object of our government just now must be directed to aiding in securing the friendliness of the Chinese officials. It is taken that the Chinese government has been acting in good faith, and on the 18th inst. was still using its best efforts to protect the legations. We must do everything we can to second its efforts. It is hard to say just now whether increased military activity on the part of the powers would have good or evil effect. That must be judged by the officers on the other side. We have not the information here that would enable us to fairly judge."

THE PRESIDENT NOTIFIED.

Minister Conger's Dispatch Promptly Sent to Him.

CANTON, O., July 21.—The president's first news of Minister Conger's dispatch was handed him the instant he left the train by the Associated Press correspondent. Scanning the bulletin, he gave evidence of pleasure at the news. Later when the state department's statement first reached him by the Associated Press adding strength to the genuineness of the news, he was more visibly gratified. Those near the president have known for days that he has never given up hope that Minister Conger was alive.

Fever Checked at Callao.

LIMA, Peru, (via Galveston, Tex.), July 21.—There have been no further deaths from yellow fever on the British steamer Chile, which still remains at Callao. The French steamer Acornagua, from Caleta Buena for La Pallice, with a foul bill, although without death on board, was ordered to undergo ten days' quarantine at Puyo on the very day she was to have sailed for Panama.

Doubts Massacre of Foreigners.

MANCHESTER, July 21.—The Guardian says today that his London agent, Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs at Peking, yesterday received a cablegram from Peking, and thereby much doubt is thrown on the report of the massacre of the foreigners.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

UNION STOCK YARDS SOUTH OMAHA.—Cattle.—The supply of cattle was rather limited, and prices in most cases were not materially different from what they were the previous day. Handy weight cattle that suited the buyers sold at full steady prices, whereas some grades for which there did not happen to be much competition were a little slow and weak. The light supply, however, and fairly good demand brought the market to an early close. There was hardly enough cow stuff on sale to make a test of the market, only about 2 or 3 cars being reported at the yards. The better quality brought fully steady prices, and owing to the light receipts, sold in some cases a little higher. There was nothing on sale to speak of in the way of stock cattle, but what few there were here met with ready sale, at good, strong prices.

Hogs.—There was a light run of hogs, but buyers started out from the beginning of the market. Opening bids were largely at \$4.95, but sellers did not let go at that figure, and as a result packers had to pay \$4.95 for the bulk of their droves. The choice hogs sold from that figure up to \$5.10 and the lighter weights sold from \$4.95 down. After the long string had changed hands prices began to weaken, and it looked as though the wind-up was going to be easier, but finally everything was bought without much change in prices. The bulk went from \$4.95 to \$5.00, with the long string at \$4.95 and the top \$5.10.

Sheep.—There was a good demand on the part of local packers and the ewes sold at fully steady prices. The lambs, however, sold lower owing to the big drop in the eastern market. Quotations were: Choice western grass ewes, \$3.95 to \$4.00; choice grass yearlings, \$4.00 to \$4.25; choice \$4.25 to \$4.40; fair to good ewes, \$2.50 to \$2.75; fair to good yearlings, \$3.00 to \$3.25; good to choice clipped lambs, \$4.25 to \$4.50; choice spring lambs, \$5.00 to \$5.25; fair to good spring lambs, \$5.25 to \$5.50; feeder ewes, \$3.00 to \$3.50; feeder yearlings, \$3.25 to \$3.50; and feeder lambs, \$3.50 to \$4.50.

KANSAS CITY.

Cattle.—Market steady; native steers, \$4.00 to \$4.50; Texas steers, \$2.75 to \$3.00; cows, \$2.50 to \$3.00; native cows and heifers, \$1.50 to \$4.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.00 to \$4.00; bulls, \$2.00 to \$3.00.
Hogs.—Market strong and 50 to 75c higher; bulk of sales, \$4.95 to \$5.10; heavy, \$4.95 to \$5.15; packers, \$4.95 to \$5.10; mixed, \$4.95 to \$5.10; light, \$4.95 to \$5.10; yorkers, \$5.00 to \$5.10; pigs, \$4.50 to \$5.00.
Sheep.—Market steady; lambs, \$4.00 to \$4.25; muttons, \$3.00 to \$4.50.

LI HUNG CHANG AT SHANGHAI.

Chinese Diplomat is Coldly Received by Foreign Consuls.

SHANGHAI, July 23.—Li Hung Chang, who arrived here today on the steamer Anping from Hong Kong, was coldly received. The native officials sent an escort of 300 armed troops, but as the French consul objected to their passage through the French settlement they were withdrawn and Earl Li landed under an escort of twelve French police. Once out of French jurisdiction he was handed over to the Cosmopolitan settlement's police, who escorted him to a place of residence. The Anping, having munitions of war on board, violated the harbor regulations by entering and was compelled to leave the limits.

The consuls have decided not to call upon Li Hung Chang officially.

Japan Impresses Steamships.

VICTORIA, B. C., July 21.—Word was received here today by the local agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, connecting with the Great Northern railway, that two of their vessels, the Tosa Maru and Kinshu Maru, have been impressed by Japan to carry troops to Taku. Rio Jun Maru, which sailed yesterday for the Orient, is the only vessel left in service. It will not be back until September.

France Honors American.

PARIS, July 21.—Mr. James Hyde of New York has been appointed a chevalier of the Legion of Honor. This decoration has been conferred upon him in recognition of his work for the advancement of French literature in the United States through the Cercle Francaise of Harvard university.

Smallpox Under Control.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 21.—The secretary of the treasury has received a telegram from Lieutenant Jarvis, acting special treasury agent at Cape Nome, stating that there had been only two new cases of smallpox since last report. The disease, he states, is apparently not spreading. He reports that he is maintaining examinations of vessels and immediate isolation ashore.

CURE FOR YELLOW FEVER.

Mexican Patient Treated With Bellinaxghi's Serum.

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, July 23.—The first patient treated with yellow fever serum by the young Brazilian experimenter, Dr. Bellinaxghi, now is fully convalescent. Other patients treated are progressing favorably. There is intense interest in the experiments and every facility is afforded the doctor. Patients very low with black vomit have been treated and the effect of the serum is marvelous, astonishing old physicians here.

Jack Was a Bull Boy.

The late Admiral "Jack" Chipp, while a religious, conscientious man, was as a boy persistently neglectful of his studies and always in trouble on account of his uncontrollable tendency to mischief. When in the naval academy he only managed to attain the minimum grade necessary to keep him in the institution, and made that only through the grace of his instructors, who knew that he had the making of a fine officer in him.

STATE BOARD IS DEAD

Judge Munger of the Federal Court Rules to This Effect.

REDUCTION OF RATES RESTRAINED

Encouraging Reports From Counties Throughout the State Regarding Crop Outlook—Rural Free Delivery Service in Nebraska—Miscellaneous Notes.

Says the State Board is Dead.

OMAHA, July 20.—Judge Munger has issued a restraining order preventing Attorney General Smyth and the putting in effect a reduction of freight rates upon certain commodities. The Burlington road has asked the restraining order. In his opinion Judge Munger held that the state board of transportation had no legal existence. He ruled that the title of the act of 1897—creating the state board—as signed by the governor, was not adopted by the legislature.

Confesses to Cattle Stealing.

ALLIANCE, Neb., July 20.—Hank Mathews, who is awaiting trial on the charge of murdering Ed Wait, a Jeweler, at this place, has made a confession to cattle rustling which implicates the Watkins brothers, who are prominent and wealthy cattlemen. It is reported that he led several officers to a hiding place in the hills where stolen hides were found. He stated that Watkins was his side partner in the business. William Watkins was arrested at Sidney today. The affair has created a great sensation here.

Strange Act of a Convict.

LINCOLN, July 19.—After living for three months on a diet consisting chiefly of plaster, soap, paper, vinegar and other equally indigestible articles, John Gallagher, sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment for shooting with intent to kill in South Omaha, died at the state penitentiary. This sentence was commuted by Governor Poynter recently to expire November 1, but he hoped by eating large quantities of soap and plaster that he could reduce himself to such a condition that he would be released. His condition has puzzled the prison authorities for some time, but they were not aware until recently what the man had been eating.

About the State Encampment.

LINCOLN, July 19.—The state military board considered plans for the next annual encampment of the Nebraska National Guard. As the funds available will not pay the expenses of the encampment it was recommended that the officers and men accept 50 per cent of the per diem in the same manner as during the encampment of 1896, and that the matter of encampment be submitted to the officers and men on these conditions.

Free Delivery for Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 20.—Rural free delivery service will be established in Nebraska on August 1, as follows: Blair, Washington county, one carrier, length of route, twenty-five miles, population served 829, number of houses on route 182, carrier, John L. Tracy; Decatur, Burt county, one carrier, length of route twenty-three and three-quarters miles, population served 921, number of houses on route 184, carrier, John C. Barlow.

Nebraska Corn Crop.

OMAHA, Neb., July 18.—With the bounteous rains throughout Nebraska, Elkhorn railway headquarters gives out an estimate of 300,000,000 bushels of corn in sight for this year. The same road also furnishes these figures for the past four years: Yield in 1899 was 224,373,000 bushels; in 1898 it was 158,754,000; in 1897, 241,268,000, and in 1896, the banner year, 298,000,000.

Judge Post Starts for Alaska.

COLUMBIA, Neb., July 20.—Ex-Supreme Judge A. M. Post started last night, via Seattle, Skagway and Dawson, to Eagle City, Alaska, which will be his headquarters, as one of the three attorneys for the territory, to which position he was appointed by the president early in June. He will return home in September in time to escape the freeze-up, and will not go back until warm weather comes again.

Wealthy Farmer Drops Dead.

FRANKLIN, Neb., July 20.—William T. McClure, a wealthy farmer and stock breeder living about seven miles south of this place, dropped dead while at work at his home. Word was sent into town at once for a doctor, but to no avail. He leaves a large family of small children and a wife. He will be buried at this place next Saturday.

Stabbed With a Knife.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., July 19.—O. M. Crawford, Birmingham, Ill., a brother of E. E. Crawford, well known in this city, is dangerously ill suffering from a knife wound inflicted by a bully whom he was trying to prevent from harming a friend. The wound is in the region of the heart.

Ex-Register Kellie Dead.

FRANKLIN, Neb., July 18.—J. E. Kelley, an old citizen of Bloomington and formerly register of the United States land office at this place, died Saturday night from a stroke or paralysis.

HILD FOR STEALING CATTLE.

A Former Respected Citizen in an Unpleasant Predicament.

SIDNEY, Neb., July 22.—William Watkins of Angora, a small station on the new Burlington route, was bound over to the district court, the bond being fixed at \$8,000, which was quickly furnished. The examination took place today at the county court house and the building was packed with stockmen, who had come more than seventy miles to assist in the prosecution. Attorney Robert Nobleman of Alliance assisted County Attorney Henry Gapes in conducting the prosecution. Watkins is charged with the killing of two head of cattle belonging to the Carey Cattle company and the hides were found buried in a lot of rubbish near his home ranch. Watkins has always borne an excellent reputation and his many friends are surprised at the charge against him.

Have a Kick Coming.

OMAHA, July 21.—Train men and employees of the operation department of the Union Pacific are causing quite a stir over what they consider hardships imposed by the company on them. The rigid physical examinations imposed on the men, and the fact that it is usually oldest employees of the road who are hardest hit. After such examination many of the old employees have learned that they were not needed longer by the company, and this fact has caused much of the ill feeling. Besides this the employees are required to go to Omaha to be examined, and this causes them much loss of time and inconvenience.

Pounded by Hail.

HEMINGFORD, Neb., July 21.—A severe hail storm visited this section Saturday night. The hail stones were as large as goose eggs and fell thick and with terrific force, passing through shingled and roofed buildings and in some instances coming through the plastered ceiling, and breaking showcases in stores. The siding on buildings were broken and splintered into kindling. Board awnings were shattered, thus affording little protection to the glass store fronts and nearly every building in town will have to be re-roofed and sided on the west side.

Incendiary Work at West Point.

WEST POINT, Neb., July 22.—The fire bug whose intention it seems to be to burn up the town was abroad again here. Two attempts were made to set fire in the center of the city, in the midst of a district filled with frame buildings and within a few feet of a lumber yard. The contents of a shed in the rear of a barber shop on Main street was set on fire about 9 o'clock but speedily extinguished. About twenty minutes thereafter the frame barn occupied by the team of County Superintendent Manning was discovered in flames and the fire department again called out.

Says He Needs a Guardian.

COLUMBUS, Neb., July 21.—County Judge T. D. Robinson handed down his decision in the Barnum case, declaring it his belief from the evidence that a guardian is needed for the aged Hon. Guy C. Barnum, his large property interests not being safe in his own hands while there is at least doubt of his sanity. Gus B. Speice, clerk of the district court, for whom Mr. Barnum had expressed a preference, was named as the guardian.

Lyons Creamery Robbed.

LYONS, Neb., July 22.—Some person or persons broke into the Lyons creamery, entering the building by one of the north windows by prying off the window fastener and sliding back the iron bolts of one of the back doors. They took ten tubs of high grade butter, weighing 600 pounds, valued at \$100. It is thought by those in charge of the creamery the theft was done by parties who have been camping near town in a covered rig for several days.

Good Wheat Yield.

DAVID CITY, Neb., July 16.—Frank Coon, who lives on his farm one mile south of town, has just threshed twenty acres of wheat which averaged thirty-five bushels to the acre, machine measure. The wheat is of excellent quality and will test more than this.

Girl Attacked by Bull-dogs.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., July 18.—The little 13-year-old daughter of Henry Hoffman is dangerously ill at her home as a result of injuries received from two bull-dogs. They jumped upon her, and before she could be rescued her hands, arms, legs and face had been lacerated in a terrible manner. The dogs were killed immediately. The girl will recover.

Wheat Yielding Well.

SEWARD, Neb., July 21.—Many of the farmers are threshing their wheat and rye from the shock. Wheat is yielding well, much of it going from thirty to forty bushels per acre, and is one of fine quality. Oats harvest is about over, and is a light crop. The recent fine rains have greatly benefited the corn and the prospect is good for a big crop.

Ended His Own Life.

BLAIR, Neb., July 22.—Mr. Himmbaugh, a blacksmith running a shop at Vacoma, a small country place twelve miles northwest of Blair, shot and killed himself with a musket which he kept in his shop. He had returned home after a ten days' spree in Blair. He was a fine workman and did a good business when sober.