

St. Pierre in This Country.

The destruction of St. Pierre has solved a mystery for the cowboys of the Rio San Francisco valley, in New Mexico. Ever since the capture of Geronimo permitted the cattlemen to occupy the extreme western part of this Territory the cowboys have been digging for pottery in the homes of an extinct race of Indians that once lived along the Rio San Francisco.

These homes were dugouts—cellars—with stone walls built into the second bank or bench of the river valley. The pottery differs from that of the cliff dwellers, and it is very beautiful.

But when digging the dirt from the old dwellings the cowboys immediately noticed that it was not like that in which the dwellings were dug. The soil of the bench, where many of the dwellings are found, is a broken-down granite, while that used in filling the old homes was a soft black loam fit for a market garden. One had to travel far down the valley to find such soil as that.

Then, as they cleaned out the old dugouts, the cowboys began to find skeletons in queer positions. An old man had been buried apparently while he sat leaning against a house wall with his pipe in his mouth. Near him a papoose wrapped and tied on a piece of bark in Indian fashion, had been standing against the wall.

Elsewhere a woman had been buried as she knelt behind a metate, or corn grinding stone. One hand was on the stone and the other in a bowl of corn—and the corn, though blackened, was recognizable. Plainly this man with the papoose and the woman had died suddenly and unexpectedly. Other skeletons were found showing that death came so swiftly that no move could be made, while some were piled up as if there had been a rush for the house entrance when death entered.

Scoring the lava on the hilltops and mesas round about the stream, it was easy to imagine that an outflow of sulfurous gases from some volcano had killed the Indians, even though a hundred square miles of territory show certain proofs of this remarkable slaughter, but the unsolvable mystery was the fact that these old cellar-like homes were filled with a kind of earth not found near at hand. If every one of the pueblos was killed—and that was plainly the case—who filled in the homes?

If Indians had come from other parts of the Territory to fill them they would have prepared the dead for burial in the usual fashion. Moreover, no man could have shoveled dirt into the rooms and filled them without disturbing the positions of the dead, who, beyond question, had been buried as they fell.

But now everybody can understand the thing, says the New York Times. As at St. Pierre, a blast of gases struck dead every soul in the valley of the Rio San Francisco. A tremendous flow of mud came next, and it flooded these homes, and very likely filled the valley full. When all that was over the rain began washing out the valley, and in the course of the years and centuries since the mud has been cleaned from the old arid granite sand, but it remains, of course, in the cellarlike homes where a prehistoric race lived and made beautiful things for every-day use, and were destroyed in a breath as they followed their usual course of life as were the people of St. Pierre.

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER.

He Has Brains and Is Supposed to Use Them.

The American soldier in the ranks has brains. It used to be thought that a soldier's only duty was to obey specific orders to the letter. The American soldier, says a writer in McClure's Magazine, is supposed to think. The result is that where three orders would be necessary to obtain a certain result with a platoon of Russian peasants the American soldier requires but one and infers the other two.

The permission and the necessity to think is American through and through, and finds expression fitly enough in Mr. Carnegie's advice to "break rules for the good of the firm." When an American is advancing in open order or on the skirmish line he is often trusted to fight his own fight in his own way. He is expected to use his head.

One regiment in Luzon was able to take entire charge of the repairing and running of the Manila and Dagupan Railroad. In the ranks were experienced civil and mechanical engineers, train crews, linemen, telegraph operators, train dispatchers, switchmen—in deed, all the men necessary to a railroad system.

The start of one of these trains was an example of the American's free and easy humor. The engine-driver in blue jean overalls and leather cap would lean from the window of the "dummy" cab; the fireman would loll back with the bell-rope in his hand, and some wit of the ranks, who played conductor, with two hundred rounds swung from his belt and a revolver instead of a ticket punch, would wave his arm and cry:

"All aboard for the Northern Limited, stopping at Malolos and Calumpit, junction of the Railroad and the dirt road!"

How the Novel Ended.
Helen—Why is it novels always have a good ending?
Sue—Well, the one I read yesterday didn't have a good ending.
Helen—It didn't?
Sue—No; mamma threw it in the fire.
—Philadelphia Record.

STORY OF THE CORONER.

Evidence of Dr. Sample Does Not Help Mrs. Lillie—Burglars Did Not Kill Him.

David City, Neb., Dec. 31.—The Lillie murder case leaves people divided in opinion as to whether the evidence will be regarded sufficient to bind Mrs. Lillie over on the charge of murdering her husband. Public sentiment in a measure, it must be admitted, has swayed toward the woman since the day of her arrest, but at the same time the testimony Tuesday was more direct and positive against her. Dr. Sample, the coroner, made a clear recital of value to the prosecution. The crowd in the court room was hardly as large as Monday, but the interest is not diminished.

Mrs. Lillie says that the reports published in Tuesday's papers that the Lillies and Hills had intermarried several times is not true and asks that a correction be made. Sam Lillie, brother of Harvey, married her sister and this was the only two marriages between the Hill and Lillie families. She says she has only five relatives living in David City.

This trial is the fourth murder case in the history of Butler county. The first was that of James Kastner, who was charged with killing a man by the name of Zima, at a Bohemian wedding on the Platte valley in 1884 or 1885. At this time the late William Marshall of Fremont was district attorney, and he was assisted in the prosecution of the case by Matt Miller of this city. Kastner was found guilty of murder in the third degree, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years.

The next was that of Dan Casey, charged with shooting a Mrs. Raoridan near Brainard, in 1888. Casey admitted that he shot the woman, but the defense proved by expert testimony that Casey was temporarily insane at the time, and he was acquitted.

The third was the case against Mary Anna Armaogst, charged with poisoning her first husband, whose name was Roberts, in 1892. This case is still fresh in the minds of the people of this county. It occupied two weeks in the district court, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

In the last two cases and the case of Mrs. Lillie, Matt Miller has appeared as counsel for the defense.

County Coroner M. V. Sample takes exceptions to some of the reports published in an Omaha paper, and says that a great injustice has been done him. In an interview last night Dr. Sample stated to the reporters that no sweating process of any kind whatever was indulged in with any witness at the coroner's inquest on the death of Harvey Lillie, and that the reports published in an Omaha paper are not true; that Mrs. Lillie was treated like a lady and she was not on the witness stand four hours as reported, but she was on the witness stand about two hours, and this in fact does two different times; also that Mr. Lillie was not even asked to go to the court house, as all other witnesses were required to do, but the coroner and the jury went to her residence and she was treated with a due courtesy.

"It is my desire to make a thorough and complete investigation of the matter and if possible locate the party who committed the crime," said Dr. Sample. "When it began to look like Mrs. Lillie was probably guilty, I tried hard to locate it somewhere else. I wanted to shield her all I possibly could."

Some of the members of the coroner's jury were also interviewed and they confirm the statement made by Dr. Sample.

The active part that some of the members of the Woman's Christian Temperance union are taking in the Lillie case is disrupting that organization. Several of the members have already withdrawn from the organization and others are threatening to do so for the reason, as they say, they are going beyond their bounds, and the purposes of the organization. Several heated discussions were heard in and about the court house yesterday afternoon, and some epithets exchanged that would not look well in print.

Dr. M. V. B. Sample, county coroner, was the first witness called. He was at the hospital soon after Mr. Lillie was taken there, and also after the patient died. He made a close examination of the wound and found the flesh around the wound was blackened from powder. About thirty minutes after Mr. Lillie died witness and Drs. Beede and Stewart held a post-mortem examination and found grains of powder inside of the skull.

Witness, by the use of the skull of an adult person, demonstrated the course of the bullet. He said the bullet struck about two inches in front of, and slightly above the right ear, and was found just behind the left ear, and that a bullet passing through the brain as this one did, would produce paralysis immediately.

A Home For Consumptives.
Springfield, Ill., Dec. 31.—Dr. J. A. Egan, secretary of the state board of health, in his annual report which will be given to Governor Yates tomorrow, suggests that the state legislature be asked for an appropriation to erect a state home for consumptives. Dr. Egan says that the disease is fast gaining a foothold, and that should a state home be built, where the poor could be taken care of, it would be a great benefit.

FLEEING FROM CITY

Columbus, Jan. 6.—Upon the convening of court Monday afternoon for the Borchers murder trial the attorneys for the defense asked for separate trials for the two boys who stand charged with the crime, and Herman the elder, who is alleged to have fired the fatal shot, was brought in court. Contrary to a common prediction, the securing of a trial jury was quite an easy matter, consuming only two hours and not exhausting the regular panel of twenty-four names.

The question asked the jurors by the prosecution was: "Have you any opinion upon the subject of capital punishment that would preclude you from bringing in a verdict of guilty in a case where the punishment would be death?"

All but three or four of the twenty men examined answered "No."

The defense asked in every instance: "Have you any opinion as to the criminal responsibility of children under fourteen years of age that would prevent you from accepting the instructions of the court as the law in this case?"

Nearly every man said "No." The trial jury consists of August Boettcher, John Deegan, J. F. Belford, Z. T. Moran, H. L. Kunemann, Henry Gehring, John Pinger, Lucius Hungford, T. C. Hogan, Gus Erast, David Schugabach, Gus Halgreen.

The boy being a native of Germany it is an interesting fact that six of the jurors are Germans, three being Irish, two Americans and one Swede.

County Attorney O'Brien, in stating the case to the jury, sketched the crime in details as it has already been published, referring to Herman as probably over fourteen years old and saying that the evidence would show that the gun used was bought for the specific purpose, with money taken from the pocket of the man who was to be killed; that the boys minutely described the plot and its execution to the coroner's jury, and that the object of the crime was the possession of the farm on which they lived. He said that the third boy, eight years old, who was not held as an accomplice will tell the story of its perpetration, his story being the only direct identification of the foot and bones found in the straw stack as those of Gerhard Borchers.

A. M. Post, former chief justice of the supreme court, in making the statement for the defense confessed that the facts in this case are so peculiar that nothing of the kind has ever before come under his observation, and that he had never previously investigated the law applicable here. He declared that 300 years ago in England children were put to trial convicted and punished for capital offenses the same as adults, but in our land in this day such an advancement in law has been made that the burden of proof rests on the prosecution to show, not only that the child has taken a life, not only that there was premeditated malice, but that it had capacity to know and did know, not merely the moral responsibility, as learned at the bedside or the confessional, but the logical consequences of the act as well.

He asserted that the defense would attempt to show that Herman Borchers, not fourteen years of age until next August, did not, and could not, from the nature of his home life, realize either the moral or the legal responsibility under which he acted, if it is proven here that he killed Gerhard Borchers. He described the step-father with whom the boys live alone as a man singularly morose, without those finer elements so necessary in the family life, holding no communication with the boys, other than being almost a stranger to his neighbors. He said the boy had acted as cook and washerwoman. He said since the mother's death had acted as cook and washerwoman. He said if the boy is guilty of any offense, it is murder in the second degree, and called the attention of the jury to the fact that if the boy is convicted the judge will have no power to commit him to an industrial school which can be done with the most favorable conditions for his ultimate good in the event of acquittal.

By agreement of the attorneys, the jury was allowed to separate under strict injunctions of the court not to allow any one to approach them privately in reference to the case.

August Johnson, uncle of the boy, is the only relative or friend showing enough sympathy for him to take a seat within the bar railing, though another uncle and the maternal grandfather were in the court room. The latter's wife is a sister of the man who was killed, the families having inter-married. George and John Borchers, brothers of the deceased, were present, the latter being accompanied by the eight-year-old boy John, whose testimony tomorrow will probably be the most intensely interesting part of the proceedings in court.

Shipping Quail in Coffins.
Carbondale, Ill., Jan. 6.—Quail are being shipped from Franklin county to St. Louis in coffins to escape the game laws, according to the confession of Noah Moore, who was arrested yesterday for violation of the game law. Moore says 1,200 quail are packed in a coffin and shipped as a corpse. Arrests are promised by the game wardens. The wardens have been out for Moore for about a year, but he had successfully evaded all officers.

Shot by New Year Reveler.
Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 2.—John F. Jones of Greenville, Tex., was shot and almost instantly killed at the Lincoln hotel by a New Year's reveler, and fell from a second story to the sidewalk. He had gone from his room to the balcony to look out on the street and was leaning over the railing when he suddenly sank forward and fell over the guard rail. His body dropped into the midst of the crowd of people who were merry making, and the slaking thump on that corner.

The Police Arrest Record.
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Captain Lincoln figured out last night that 1,619 arrests were made during the past year, compared with 1,670 arrests the year before; 7,744 meals were served in the city jail during the past twelve months against 7,373 the year before. The man's cost ten cents each, making the city's prison board bill for 1902 \$774.40.

ON TRIAL FOR LIFE.

Boy of Fourteen Years Before Bar of Justice—Opening of Borchers Case.

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KILLED IN HIGHWAY

DETAILS RECEIVED OF MURDER OF D. C. MONTGOMERY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The insular bureau of the war office has just received by the latest mail from Manila particulars of the killing of D. C. Montgomery, deputy division superintendent of schools for Oriental Negroes. It will be remembered that Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery left their home in Nebraska about a year ago and took passage for the Philippines via Hilo, transferred to steamer for Selay, secured a saddle horse and carrier for his baggage in the latter town, and was journeying toward Bacolod, late in the afternoon of October 31, preceded by the carrier with his suit case.

The journey was over one of the most frequented roads in Negros. A drizzling rain began to fall about 5 o'clock and darkness approached more rapidly than usual. When about three miles from Bacolod, according to the story told by the carrier, which there seems no reason to doubt, six men sprang from the brush and attacked Mr. Montgomery. The carrier threw his load to one side on hearing Mr. Montgomery's cries, and seeing the assault ran into the adjacent field, making a wide detour in order to reach the road some distance behind the scene of attack. He recovered the flying horse which Mr. Montgomery had ridden and hastened to Selay, too frightened to inform anyone in the town of Talissay as he passed through. About 10 o'clock the next morning information reached the president in Bacolod that an American said to be a school superintendent from Oriental Negros had been killed and he notified the constabulary headquarters and this office. This narrative is written by G. W. Beattie, division superintendent of schools at Bacolod, Negros, under date of November 3.

The president and Mr. R. B. Howell hastened to the scene of the tragedy, and I followed on horseback. A detachment of constabulary had preceded us and had already removed the body from the ditch into which it had been thrown by the assailants. On reaching the spot the president and Mr. Howell made an examination of the contents of the pockets of the dead man and placing the body on a stretcher started the carriers toward Bacolod. I met the carriers coming down the road and returned with them. Dr. Tukey, the military surgeon at this post, sent his hospital corps to prepare the body for interment, a coffin being furnished through the kindness of Colonel Frank, the commanding officer.

The funeral services were held at my house, and conducted by the Rev. Mr. Huse, a Baptist missionary in Bacolod. All the members of the provincial government and a large number of prominent Filipinos attended the services and accompanied the remains to the cemetery, where the body was enclosed in one of the military vaults.

A post-mortem examination revealed ten wounds in the trunk and arm, consisting mainly of lance thrusts. Four of these were serious. The face was not disfigured. The body had lain in water all night. Mr. Montgomery's watch, suit case, revolver and belt were taken, but one hundred dollars in United States currency, a salary check of one of the teachers, and some loose change were undisturbed in his pockets.

Four natives who know something of the crime have been arrested by the constabulary, but they are not believed to be the actual murderers. Some persons think that robbery was the sole motive of the act.

Reward For Alleged Elopers.
Table Rock, Neb., Jan. 5.—A reward of \$50 has been offered for the arrest of Rev. Roy Fairchild and Mrs. May Johnson, who are charged recently eloped from Barrett, Kas. A small town twenty or twenty-five miles southwest of here, Fairchild is twenty-seven years old, a Free Methodist preacher, and leaves a wife and four small children. The woman is the wife of Henry Johnson and leaves two small children.

Nebraska Notes

The Talmage hotel was destroyed at Auburn with a loss of \$4,000 and \$2,000 insurance.

J. D. Robinson, 85, fell from a wagon at Fremont and sprained his neck joint.

Chemical vinegar, catsup and table sauces contains no vegetable matter whatever.

Alex Hagblad was crossing the M. & O. track at Norfolk when run down by an engine. He was badly mauled but may recover.

A new Methodist church costing \$10,000 on the plan of the St. Paul's church of Lincoln, was dedicated at Geneva.

August Herbek, a Bohemian residing near Sterling, drew his gun through a wire fence, when it was discharged, instantly killing him.

Charles Wood was found at Bridgeport, Neb., with his throat cut. He says a man stabbed him but refuses to reveal his name.

Charles Wood, a horse buyer for Owen Bros., of Waco, was found with his throat cut. He says a man stabbed him but the conditions point to attempted suicide.

Mrs. Martha Davis, an old settler of Butler county, died at the home of her son there. She was 89 years old and survived her husband twenty-five years. She leaves three sons, Frank, one time county treasurer; C. G. and Elijah.

Governor Mickey has announced that he will retain J. T. Morey at the head of the institution for the blind at Nebraska City. Mr. Morey was selected because of his faithful conduct of affairs as former head of the institution over many applicants for the place.

Joseph Martin, sent to the penitentiary from Lancaster county for one year for getting too familiar with a wagon and team around some brass and other stuff belonging to someone else, was released from the state prison by Governor Savage January 1st.

During each of the first eleven months of 1902, except March, the Douglas county hospital had a greater number of inmates than during the corresponding months of the year 1901, according to the reports of Superintendent J. Henry Oest and Dr. Lee.

A sub-committee of the State Bar association met in Lincoln to discuss needed legislation and made some recommendations to the coming legislature. Among the questions discussed were changes in the divorce law, a return to the district attorney system and an amendment to the reform school law.

The police officers have succeeded in finding the overcoat which was stolen from the Plattsmouth hotel. One of the suspects who was released sold it at a livery stable for \$2. It is thought that other petty thefts have been committed but the fellows were smooth enough to conceal their guilt until they left town.

D. E. Thompson expects to leave for his post in Brazil January 24, so Mr. Thomson has informed the committee that waited upon him in regard to the reception and banquet that the Commercial club intends to give in honor of the new consul. The banquet will be given on the evening of January 22 and will probably be followed by a ball in the capitol building.

The farm house of Lewis Dierking near Dakota City, was robbed some time after the retirement of its inmates and the two hired men, George Hirschbach and Lowry Asher, were losers to the extent of \$105 in cash, the former losing \$30 and the latter \$75. Hirschbach also lost his gold watch. None of the inmates of the house were aroused, and knew nothing of the robbery until morning. The hired men's room was the only one entered. The contents of Hirschbach's trunk, in which was his money and watch, were scattered over the floor. Asher's money was taken from his trousers' pockets.

The police cleared up the mystery of the "woman in black," which has been quite a sensation at Nebraska City for a week. The police received a call from the west end stating that the woman was creating a disturbance. Chief McCallum arrived at the home of Mrs. H. J. Padgett, where the woman was making a visit. The woman gave her name as Mrs. Nolan and said that she had lately come to the city and was hunting work. Investigation seems to show that most of the sensational stories were untrue and that the woman was simply attending to her own business.

Henry Guntrum, for many years considered the strongest man in Lincoln has been admitted to the asylum for the insane. His case is one of acute paresis. For the last year he has been acting strangely and his family, fearing that he would become violent at any time, had him taken before the county commissioners, who adjudged him insane. Physically he is a giant and formerly ran a transfer wagon.