

DIED IN THE BUNKS

Fate of Seven Cattlemen Who Started on a Long Voyage While Drunk.

SMOTHERED BY GAS WHILE SLEEPING

Fourteen Went to Bed in the Forecastle and Half of Them Never Awoke.

ROUGH VOYAGE OF A CATTLE STEAMER

Twenty-four Days' Continuous Battle with Wintry Winds on the Atlantic.

BAD COAL THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE

Inferior Fuel and Unpropitious Weather Added Horror to the Result of the Unfortunate Men's Fatal Indiscretion—Story of the Sea.

Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, March 12.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE HER.]—Seven men out of fourteen who slept in the fore-castle of the steamer Navarro, which sailed from Boston for London on February 7, were found dead in their bunks the second morning out. The men were P. McCabe, J. McDonald, J. Boyke, William Smith, E. Galostino, E. Perquin and A. Cord. The men were buried at sea. Their seven companions had a narrow escape of the same fate. The Navarro was comparatively a new steamer of 2,515 register, commanded by Captain Golocoechea. She was loaded with 404 head of cattle and a general cargo, consigned by Messrs. J. H. Taylor & Co., of Boston to Messrs. Thomas Donaldson & Co., of 34 Leadenhall street, London. In addition to the crew she carried fourteen cattle men, one boss foreman and two refrigerators. The fourteen cattle men slept in the fore-castle in rather close quarters. Each had his own cargo. Cattlemen don't come aboard ships as a rule in the soberest condition, and the first day at sea generally has a disquieting effect physically. The Navarro's cattlemen were of the ordinary variety. The first night at sea came, the cattle were fed and bedded, and the cattlemen then sought the fore-castle. The weather was cold and stormy, the men tired and sleepy and some suggested that the fire be piled high with coal. This was done and some also closed the port holes. Next day the men noticed the lack of ventilation until too late. The quality of coal on the Navarro was unutterably bad. One by one the men dropped asleep, aided doubtless by the gaseous atmosphere. As the hours rolled on the gas became denser and the men in the upper bunks were developed in the deadly embrace. Asleep in Death. In the morning as the men did not appear at the usual hour to attend the wants of the cattle the captain ordered them roused. The boss cattleman and some of the crew entered the fore-castle and were almost overcome by the deadly atmosphere. They found seven men dead and seven almost dead. None of the latter were out of danger for two days, and one man hovered between life and death for five days. It was plain to see that the men had been poisoned by coal gas. The quality of the coal undoubtedly had a bearing on their death. The coal was so bad that the vessel was twenty-four days on the voyage, and the captain ascribes the length of the voyage as much to the quality of the coal as to the high winds. The seven dead men were buried at sea. When they came to land they were buried in the cemetery. It was a frightful voyage. The passage was frightful in many ways. The death of half the cattle and the partial disability of the rest made it absolutely necessary that the crew should work to take care of the cattle. In this work the boss cattleman, the two refrigerators and some of the crew were almost continually on their feet. The weather was almost a continuous storm of wind, always ahead. Still in spite of all difficulties and disasters only three cattle were lost on the voyage. Today the cattle looked well, but the men aboard looked like ghosts.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

Chatty Bits of News of Passing Interest from Merry England.

Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, March 12.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE HER.]—Considerable opposition is being made to a proposal to place a memorial to the late James Russell Lowell in Westminster abbey. The objections are various, but the chief among them is that the abbey contains the monuments of the illustrious dead of the nation, and therefore, as Mr. Lowell was an American, a monument to him would not be in place. The movement looking toward placing one in the abbey, however, is proceeding. The authorities of the society have taken the matter up and arranged preliminaries for the memorial, which will be in the form of a bust.

Stanley for Parliament. Mr. Henry M. Stanley has given up the idea of returning to England via San Francisco. He will proceed direct to London. It is said that the intelligence cable from Australia of the possibility of a general election coming a little earlier than was expected brings the explorer back to present himself as a candidate for Parliament.

Minister of Agriculture Chaplin has been compelled to acknowledge in the House of Commons that the present outbreak of foot and mouth disease should not be attributed to Denmark, just as United States Cattle Inspector Dr. Wray contended, but to the Isle of Sheppey, which is a part of this tight little island. All the same he will not allow Danish cattle to enter.

Heals in the House. There are now three members of the Healy family in the House of Commons. Timothy represents County Longford, Maurice sits for that city and Tom has just been returned, unopposed, for North Wexford. They come from Bantry, and this little town has supplied nine members of the Irish party. Timothy is piling up riches. He has just purchased the Freeman's Journal in £700 and an apogee. That should turn young Mr. Dwyer Gray's hair gray.

GENERAL BOOTH MISSED. Futile Attempt of the Salvationist to Address an English Audience. LONDON, March 12.—General Booth visited 3,000 Denmark and ex-communicated to meet last night in the Grecian theater, city road, to hear him explain the progress of his social

scheme. The condition of admission was the presentation of a ticket to be obtained by passing the previous night in one of General Booth's houses of shelter. At the appointed hour a motley crowd gathered in force outside the building singing ribald songs and uttering coarse jests. Each person was presented with a meat pie on entering. The building was soon crammed and General Booth was received with a storm of hisses when he stepped on the stage. The crowd became so noisy that the general could not make himself heard and was obliged to give up the whole program, including the address of welcome on behalf of the social wing. There was a chorus of shouts, "Get it, old sweater," "Chuck him out," and similar expressions, the meaning being that the general has been feathering his own nest. The police ejected many of the noisiest and finally General Booth managed to make a short address to an accompaniment of hisses, jeers and derisive remarks to the effect that his shelters teemed with vermin, "We want food and drink," "Where was all the money gone," etc. The organization seemed to be organized by hoodlums and others whose industry Booth's work seems to have injured. The meeting dispersed in disorder.

Without the Suit. LONDON, March 12.—The prosecution of Louis Cluvis Bonaparte, son of the late Prince Lucien Bonaparte, who was charged by his first wife with having conspired to obtain possession of jewelry valued at £20,000 in order to give it to Miss Laura Scott, whom he subsequently married, was withdrawn in the central criminal court, Old Bailey, today on Mr. Bonaparte undertaking to return all the jewelry and pay Rosalie Bonaparte's costs in the action.

Old America. LONDON, March 12.—On May 22 there will open at Manchester an exhibition to be known as Old America. Alderman Marks, formerly mayor of Manchester, is organizing the exhibition and will run it. He says it will last six months. It will include reproductions of the streets of Boston in 1693 and streets of New York in 1792. It is probable that after the exhibition is closed in Manchester it will be taken to Chicago and other cities in the United States.

Snowing Hard on the Continent. LONDON, March 12.—From reports received from Germany and Spain it is learned that a very heavy snow storm is prevailing throughout those countries. Telegraphic communication between France and Spain is interrupted.

YACHTING. A blizzard is raging in northern Austria and Hungary. Snow has made the roads impassable. Traffic in Vienna has been suspended for hours.

Another English Divorce Case. LONDON, March 12.—The divorce court has ordered that the suit for divorce brought against his wife by Albert O. Randerger, the celebrated composer and director of the Royal academy of music, be placed on the list for trial Monday. The correspondent in the case is Hayden Coffin, the well known American baritone singer.

West Ashore in a Fog. PANAMA, March 12.—The Pacific Mail steamer Colima, which left San Francisco February 19, went ashore this morning in a fog near La Union, San Salvador, on the west coast of the Gulf of Fonseca, and may prove a total loss, as she is leaking badly.

Movement of Russian Troops. CHACOROV, March 12.—Military transport trains bearing a large number of troops are continually passing here en route for the western frontier. In the villages and towns of Poland 120,000 troops have been billeted upon the inhabitants.

They Were Not Defeated. ZANZIBAR, March 12.—The report that the British East Africa company's troop have sustained a defeat at Witu at the hands of a large force of natives, losing many men and a Maxim gun, proves to have been incorrect.

Mutinous Sailors. HAVRE, March 12.—A portion of the crew of the Bretagne have refused to sail in her and attempted to prevent others from taking their places. They were quelled and a crew was put aboard.

Steamer Arrivals. At Bremen—The Travre, from New York. At New York—The City of Berlin, from Liverpool. At New York—The Carthage, from Baltimore; the Aurantia, for Liverpool. At Swansea—Sailed: The Massachusetts, for Baltimore. She has a cargo of 4,500 tons of oil. At Liverpool—The Champagne, from New York for Havre.

The Fire Record. CLEVELAND, O., March 12.—Works of the Caldwell & Collins Norway Belt company burned this morning. Loss, \$100,000.

RED OAK, Ia., March 12.—This morning Axtell's restaurant, B. J. Cleveland's drug store and George Cheek's dry goods store were destroyed by fire. William S. Lowe was burned to death.

Will Prosecute the Lynchers. DARTMOUTH, Wis., March 12.—The district attorney has finally decided not to act upon the petition signed by members of the county board asking for the discontinuance of the prosecution of the lynchers at Siebold. The trial commenced this morning. H. S. Martin opened the case for the defense with an eloquent address.

Will Investigate the Lynching. MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 12.—Attorney General Peters this morning issued subpoenas summoning Sheriff McDaniel, Lewis Williams, T. J. Seat and Nightwatchman O'Donnell to appear before the grand jury next Tuesday. On that day an investigation into Thursday morning's lynching will be commenced.

WEATHER FORECAST. OFFICE OF WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, March 12. The high barometer mentioned in yesterday's paper is still central north of Minnesota and the weather has turned colder in the north, with generally northerly winds blowing. Light snows occurred in Minnesota and North Dakota. Temperature has risen south and west of us. Concordia, Kan., reporting a maximum of 70° and Dodge City 74°. Fair weather has prevailed in and south of the Missouri valley.

For Omaha and Vicinity—Probably continued fair weather, becoming colder, with northerly winds during the day. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12.—For Iowa—Generally fair; colder Sunday; northeast winds. For Minnesota—Light local snows; winds shifting to easterly; colder in southeast portion; warmer in extreme northwest portion. For Kansas—Generally fair and slightly colder Sunday. For Missouri—Fair; slightly colder; winds shifting to northerly. For Nebraska—Generally fair; easterly winds; colder. For Colorado—Increasing cloudiness and slightly colder in east portion; northeast winds; colder. For South Dakota—Fair, followed by light rain or snow by Monday morning; east winds; colder except in extreme north portion.

PRESS PROSECUTIONS

Emperor William's Intolerance Not Relaxed by the German People.

ARRESTS FOR LESE MAJESTE CONTINUE

Newspapers and Individuals Must Be Careful When Speaking of His Majesty.

BLUSTERING BLIZZARDS BLOW IN BERLIN

Traffic Suspended and Business Interfered With by the Storms.

WILLIAM AND THE KING OF HANOVER

Their Differences Are Amicably Adjusted—The Emperor Recovering from His Illness—Minister Phelps Returns to Berlin—News from the Fatherland.

Copyrighted 1892 by New York Associated Press. BERLIN, March 12.—The blizzard that has prevailed here for the past three days has retarded the emperor's recovery from the cold with which he is suffering. Quite a number of persons besides the emperor have been affected by the cold weather and are suffering from chills. For a time yesterday a perfect American blizzard prevailed here. Traffic on the streets was impeded for hours and business was paralyzed. The emperor suffered a relapse last night which caused a postponement of the audience set for today. His majesty has a slight fever, but continues his work in his bed-room. He is highly pleased at the reconciliation that has taken place with the duke of Cumberland concerning the Tuolip fund. Surrender of the King of Hanover. The Reichsanzeiger this evening publishes a communication from the emperor to the Prussian ministry announcing that the time has arrived to annul the sequestration of the property of the late King George of Hanover. In a letter dated Thursday the duke of Cumberland requests the emperor to give his gracious consideration to the execution of the treaty dealing with the property of the late king. The duke concludes: "I am anxious to avail myself of the opportunity of once more declaring that it is far from my intention to engage in any enterprise calculated to disturb or in any way menace the peace of the German empire, or the states belonging thereto." The tone of the duke's surrender is a surprise to his adherents and opponents alike. The duke's request is not to be taken from him by the government, but nothing more was expected than a recognition of the German empire with a promise of friendly neutrality. His subject renunciation of the principles reads as if it had been dictated by the emperor.

Influenced by Queen Victoria. The friends of the duke affirm that Queen Victoria and the prince of Wales induced the members of the Danish royal family to join them in bringing pressure on the duke to obtain his consent to the emperor's arrangement for recognizing the duke's claim. The duke's reply was before the emperor combined family onslaught and to the consideration of the international policy that influenced the negotiations. Improved relations between the emperor and the ruling families of Russia and Denmark are expected to result. Although a reconciliation had not been definitely effected within the last few days, the emperor's attitude is such that it is probable that the emperor is already making arrangements to meet the duke of Cumberland and the ear at Copenhagen during the early summer.

The Cologne Gazette states that the duke, in engaging a tutor for his oldest son, directed that his education should be purely German. The history of the war between Hanover and Prussia in 1866 is to be passed over lightly. The boy will be fitted to take any post as a good German.

Grand Duke of Hesse. A bulletin issued today says that the general strength of the grand duke of Hesse, who was stricken with paralysis a few days ago, shows a further dimunition. A grave symptom, rattling in the wind pipe, has set in and leaves his condition hopeless. The grand duke Sergius of Russia and the grand duchess, who is a daughter of the grand duke of Hesse, and other members of the family are in Darmstadt waiting the end. The death of the grand duke of Hesse will have no effect on the political situation. His successor will be the grand duke Albert, who is a lieutenant of the guards at Potsdam and a good friend of the emperor.

Unemployed Workmen Meet. A meeting of 2,500 unemployed workmen was held in the Vivod gardens today. There was no disturbance. The Vorwaerts, as the organ of the socialist members of the Reichstag, was declared to be no longer the mouth-piece of the workmen. Finally a resolution was approved affirming that as recognized by the party, an action which means that revolution is its method to achieve its aims.

The Vorwaerts replying to this action drew a distinction between proletarian and the lumpen or casual proletariat, the former vindicating socialism by parliamentary means, the latter disgracing the cause of the worker by riot.

Two extremists, Auerbach and Biester, were arrested and placed on trial on the charge of inciting civil war. During the course of the case, Biester referred to the emperor's speech, adding that if he was condemned for inciting civil war the emperor ought to be also condemned. The court at once stopped the case and ordered the arrest of Biester on the further charge of lese majeste.

Herr Suedel, an officer of the Berlin municipal court, who was expressing himself freely on the emperor's utterances, has also been arrested.

Press Prosecutions. The crop of press prosecutions grows daily. Even obscure papers published in Leipzig, Mulhausen and Hanover, do not escape the vigilance of the public prosecutor. A Munich paper announced the issue of a cartoon on the carnival procession, in which a group presented a pictorial burlesque of the emperor's Brandenburg address to malcontents to enliven the issue of the cartoon was stopped by the government authorities. His majesty's intolerance of criticism approaches a craze.

The Hon. William Walter Phelps, United States minister, who returned to Berlin today from his trip to Egypt, looks to be enjoying splendid health. He says he feels in good trim for work after his vacation.

Colonel Drexel and Dr. W. A. Eldred are now in the city. They are going to Russia to superintend the distribution of flour and provisions sent from America on the steamer Indiana for the relief of the sufferers.

ENGLISH MINERS GO OUT

Commencement of the Gigantic Strike—Trouble Feared.

LONDON, March 12.—The great coal miners strike was inaugurated today. At 2 o'clock this afternoon the men employed in the mines in Lancashire and Cheshire and Yorkshire stopped work. The only men now at work are surface-men, pumpers, ventilator attendants, etc., who were not called out. In Durham the miners also completely stopped. The number of miners who had quit work up to noon in Nottingham was 20,000. The coal stocks in the Bristol district are already nearly exhausted. As the result of the strike in that district the price of coal has gone up 4 shillings a ton. Belgian shippers are sending coal to the Tyne and the Thames. Colliers carrying these consignments are expected to arrive Monday. The coal porters will attempt to prevent the discharge of these cargoes and it is feared this will lead to a renewal of the dock troubles.

One of the results of the split which occurred among the North Wales miners is that men working in Flintshire will not go on a strike, but will work not more than five days a week.

Wooden barricades are being built around the mouths of the various pits in Durham and none of the miners will be allowed inside those inclosures. It is believed that at a conference to be held Wednesday next by the miners' federation it will be decided to limit holidays to a week and restrict the output during the summer.

Many of the large industrial establishments in Leeds and Manchester and on the Tossidge and Tynside and other places in the vicinity of the colliers, damped their fires when the operators left their work this afternoon. This means that work will not be resumed on Monday, the manufacturers refusing to pay the extraordinary prices now demanded for coal.

The miners' federation will pay the men strike wages during the period of idleness. The only exception to this, so far as is present known, is the Durham miners, who will not receive pay. It will require a very large sum of money to pay the 400,000 men who, it is said, have quit work, though they receive strike wages.

The secretary of the federation was subjected to a levy, to be made upon the men as soon as they return to work.

The weather today is stormy and the snow lies several inches deep in the villages about all collieries in the county of Durham met in the towns of Durham and finally decided that they would submit to no reduction in their wages. The Durham and Northumberland miners are not members of the Miners' Federation, but have an organization of their own—the National Union. This union and the Miners' Federation of Great Britain and Ireland are entirely distinct.

Favorable Outlook for a Protracted Strike. The action of the Durham miners promises to cause a protracted strike in that country, as the mine owners there declared that if the men stopped work at their own convenience they would not be employed again except at a reduction of 15 per cent. The question at issue is a reduction of wages. In some cases the owners' proposal of reduction was met by a flat refusal on the part of the men; in others it was met by a counter proposal to reduce temporarily the number of weekly working days to five. In others again it was met by the proposal to stop work altogether for a certain time. The second and third proposals were based on the principle that a reduction of output would, by causing a rise in prices, obviate the necessity of a reduction in wages. The third proposal is that which the federation has adopted. The membership of the federation is enormous. It comprises about 280,000 miners, of whom 20,000 are bottom workers, the remaining 8,000 being employed on the surface, or at the pit bank, as it is called.

Will Hold a Conference in London. The federation delegates who met some time ago at the Manchester conference represented 175,000 working miners. The conference to be held on Wednesday will take place in London. There is a special and important question to be discussed, namely, the expected parliamentary discussion on the eight-hour bill.

Mr. Parrott, a leader in the federation, in speaking of the demand for an eight-hour day, said: "The choice lies between a parliamentary act and recourse to strikes. We want to avoid the harsh and costly plan of strikes. In settling the eight-hour day, we are consulting the owner's interests as well as our own."

Only an act can protect those owners who are willing to try the eight-hour day against their rivals who oppose its limitation, legislative or otherwise. Another scheme of the federation is to rescue women from the rough, demoralizing and uneconomic labor at the pit mouth.

In Durham and Northumberland. The main question at issue in Durham and Northumberland was not whether the output should be reduced, but whether the men should accept the owners' offer of reduced wages. To the first offer of a reduction of 18 cents the men replied with a threat of a strike. They were almost unanimous in rejecting the suggestion of arbitration and the action today shows they intend to fight the masters with the only weapon at their hands—a strike.

Hitherto most of the water used by the miners and their families in their household duties has been obtained from the mines, the pumps there furnishing them with an abundant supply, and it is now feared that a water famine will follow the cessation of work. The women and children are procuring water from every available source and storing it in all manner and kind of receptacles in their houses. The miners have plenty of coal, as the mild weather has allowed them to provide themselves with liberal supplies.

PASSING OF BOULANGER. Last of the Brave General Will Be Sold South—Extent of the Disaster. Indicted for Libel. BACON ROUGE, Ia., March 12.—Before an adjournment of the district court this evening the grand jury returned a report of a number of indictments found. There was one against Colonel John C. Wickliffe of New Orleans for libel. The charge is that in a recent article contributed to the Forum on the lottery question, he had made certain passages reflecting upon Judge Becker's course in the Stainant case and conveying the impression that his rulings were prompted by improper motives.

Rumors Concerning Jay Gould. SAYS, N. M., March 12.—An absurd report is circulated in the dispatches to the effect that Jay Gould decided not to go to Mexico because he feared being captured by Garza's gang and held for ransom. The facts in the matter are that Mr. Gould is so greatly charmed with southeastern New Mexico that he has decided to give up his Mexican trip and stop at Eddy. For the past two days he has been inspecting the local irrigation systems in the Pecos valley.

SEEMS TO BE STUCK

Wheels of England Idle for Some Time.

BALFOUR CAN'T START THE MACHINE

He Doesn't Understand its Mechanism and Consequently Fails as Engineer.

MR. GLADSTONE IS CONTENT TO WAIT

He Does Not Want to Hurry the Downfall of the Conservative Government.

PREDICAMENT OF THE IRISH FACTIONS

Each Eager to Continue the Feud, But Neither Has the Cash to Proceed On—Effect of the Great Coal Miners' Strike.

Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, March 12.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE HER.]—The government is getting into great difficulty in the House of Commons owing to the complete block of business. Not one of its measures is making the least progress, and what is even worse, scarcely any money can be obtained, although large sums are required before the close of the present financial year, which ends the financial year. The ordinary rules of the house are suspended in some important particulars, and all kinds of expedients are being tried to get the ministerial coach out of the rut, but it sticks fast. Everything is in a hopeless state of mudslide and nobody is able to see his way out of it. Of course, the more necessary funds are, the real leader. Mr. Balfour has not shown that command of the situation his friends looked for. It is quite evident that his knowledge of the facts of the house is of a very superficial description, a disadvantage which dogs every step he takes. Mr. Balfour made a great reputation as Irish secretary. If he could have had his way, I don't believe he would have changed that position for any other, but the death of Mr. Smith forced him to accept the leadership.

Slight Hopes for Balfour. He has thus far not been able to get a good grasp on the machine. He lets the debate go manuevering for hours, when an early and judicious remonstrance would bring it to an end, and seems unable to make up his mind quickly. In dealing with emergencies he lacks promptness, promptness and decision. But the party generally is not disposed to judge him harshly, and believe time and experience will make good all deficiencies.

Unfortunately every day places the government in a position of greater jeopardy. Many fear it will not be able to tide over Easter, and in that case the Gladstonians would gain unquestionable advantage in the election, for the conservatives are by no means ready at this moment for a final trial of strength.

Mr. Gladstone himself is not anxious to precipitate a crisis, for if he came into power too soon he would have to produce a new home rule bill this year. This would not suit his book. He would like to have the autumn for formulating a scheme, and will discuss nothing until this time next year. He is not doing anything to add to the embarrassment of the government, though irregular sharpshooters in his ranks work hard enough in that direction. It is always easy to protract a discussion or waste time putting all sorts of questions to ministers on the most trifling matter.

Can They Reach the Cash? Irishmen cannot be accused of obstructing, for their own affairs, require the greater part of their attention. How to liberate all the money tied up in Paris is the great problem with them. So far the bankers retain possession and have no right to give it up to any of the claimants. Funds must be had for the parliamentary election, and only a few dollars come in from the United States. Both sections of the party are in the same plight. The answers of war are lacking. With divisions in their ranks, with no apparent leader, and no money in the bank, their prospects are not so bright as they were in Parnell's palmy days.

Strike Without a Parallel. Trade inevitably has a great effect upon politics. Seldom of late years has there been a greater cause for anxiety than on the score of the immense coal strike. It enlarges its area every day, and workmen in all sorts of industries are thrown out of employment in consequence. It is one of the most important events that has occurred in modern times. Iron works and cotton mills are being closed, furnaces blown out and railroads are discharging their hands.

If this disaster had been brought about by capitalists or employers, we should now be on the eve of a revolution, and it is entirely owing to the working men themselves. It is purely and essentially a labor movement beginning with a section of colliers who desired to raise the price of coal by producing an artificial scarcity. Not only have they caused enormous suffering among the poor during this inclement season, but they are depriving thousands of their own means of subsistence. In the whole history of the labor world nothing is found to equal this. It will open the eyes of the country to the complete mastery labor has obtained over capital, and the terrible dangers which are involved in the new despotism now firmly established. A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Countess Russell Again. LONDON, March 12.—Countess Russell, wife of Lord Russell, who recently unsuccessfully sued for a writ of judicial separation and who was ordered by the divorce court to pay the costs, has appealed from the order. Judgment on the question is reserved.

Countess Russell claims that she has not the money necessary to pay the costs and nor solicitor's fees, and asks that her husband be compelled to pay them.

Petitioning for Mrs. Osborne's Release. LONDON, March 12.—A society journal here has started a petition asking for a commutation of the sentence of Mrs. Florence Ethel Osborne for theft and perjury. So far the petition has received but few signatures.

Archduke Leopold Seriously Ill. VIENNA, March 12.—The Archduke Leopold, uncle of Emperor Francis Joseph, is suffering from congestion of the lungs. The physicians pronounce his condition serious.

Balfour Given Fair Warning. LONDON, March 12.—Various morning papers warn Balfour that he has been pitifully weak thus far and must be a leader who leads or else follows.

MISSOURI CITIZENS MAKE SHORT WORK OF A LEACHEROUS BRUTE

CARROLLTON, Mo., March 12.—Yesterday afternoon while Mrs. Pereton, wife of John Pereton, a farmer living four miles from town, was alone at her home, an unknown tramp forced an entrance to the house. With a blow upon the head he felled Mrs. Pereton to the ground, and drawing a revolver and pointing it at the victim's head, he criminally assaulted her and escaped to the woods.

Mrs. Pereton, when found, was in an unconscious condition. As soon as she recovered she told the story of the assault. Mr. Pereton came immediately to town and a sheriff's posse was formed to search for the assailant. The Washington office of the Bureau of Claims advised that a man had been arrested there stating that he had committed Mrs. Pereton's assault. The prisoner was brought here this evening and was taken immediately to jail, where he confessed to the crime. He denied, however, that it was he who committed the assault. An unorganized mob attacked the jail with the intention of securing the prisoner and lynching him, but Sheriff Lewis has anticipated the mob and has placed a strong guard heavily armed in the jail. The mob became discouraged at the resistance shown by the sheriff and his men, and the prisoner is being formed tonight with a better organization and will make another attack upon the jail. The sheriff says he will defend his prisoner at all hazards.

PREVIOUS RECORDS BROKEN. Remarkable Time in Which the Bee Bureau of Claims Secures Patents. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12.—[Special Telegram to THE HER.]—The Washington office of the Bee Bureau of Claims today secured for Messrs. Chambers and Gravenor two Bitter Water, Cura a patent on a shell loader. This is an improvement over anything now used and is expected to prove valuable to the inventors. The patents secured by the Bureau are unusually strong ones.

The Washington office of the Bureau of Claims also procured today from the general land office for Alexander McNair, Hobbsville, Ore., a patent on the east half of southwest quarter section 23, township 1 north, range 10 west, Williamsite Meriden, containing 60 acres. This case appeared in court was entered for McNair by the Washington office of the Bee Bureau on February 20 and the patent was secured in twenty days. McNair's previous case, a patent made by the Bureau in securing land patents and exemplifies the exceptional facilities possessed by the Bureau for securing to settlers their patents.

Peculiar Case of an Illinois Farmer. MONMOUTH, Ill., March 12.—[Special to THE HER.]—Wednesday evening, February 17, Robert H. Rankin left his home near Monmouth, Ill., to go to the stock farm of W. P. Youner near Mount Pleasant, Ia., where he expected to purchase some fine stock. He never reached his destination and no trace of him can be found. He was an enterprising young farmer and breeder of fine stock, well known among breeders throughout the west; his habits were exemplary, and his business affairs were in excellent shape. He had no reasonable theory can be advanced for his voluntary absence.

He may have met with foul play, or may have wandered away during a sudden aberration of mind. He was 32 years of age, about five feet ten inches in height, weighed 175 pounds, had blue eyes, brown hair, thin nose, wore a "tuft" in front, and a light mustache. He wore a black diagonal suit and overcoat, plush cap, congress gaiters, arctic, wide skirt, buff-down collar and buff-colored tie with leaf figure of old gold. He had a morocco dairy, an open face silver watch, a pocket watch, a 35, 164, and a gold watch movement No. 3,239,499, and a pocket watch with \$50 in money in his pockets. Any information concerning him will be liberally rewarded by the excellent George C. Rankin, postmaster of Monmouth.

Rumors Concerning Jay Gould. SAYS, N. M., March 12.—An absurd report is circulated in the dispatches to the effect that Jay Gould decided not to go to Mexico because he feared being captured by Garza's gang and held for ransom. The facts in the matter are that Mr. Gould is so greatly charmed with southeastern New Mexico that he has decided to give up his Mexican trip and stop at Eddy. For the past two days he has been inspecting the local irrigation systems in the Pecos valley.