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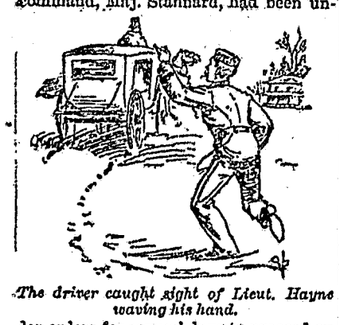
THE DESERTER.

CHAPTER XIV.

"The best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley." Mrs. Rayner, ill in mind and body, had yielded to her lord's entreaties and determined to start eastward with her sister without delay. Packing was already begun. Miss Travers had promised herself that she would within thirty-six hours put Mr. Hayne in possession of certain facts or theories which in her opinion bore strongly upon the "clearing up" of the case against him; Mr. Hayne had determined that he would see Maj. Waldron on the coming day and begin active efforts towards the restoration of his social rights; the doctor had about decided on a new project for inducing Clancy to unbosom himself of what he knew; Capt. Rayner, tired of the long struggle, was almost ready to welcome anything which should establish his subaltern's innocence, and was on the point of asking for six months' leave just as soon as he had arranged for Clancy's final discharge from service; he had reasons for staying at the post until that Hibernian household was fairly and squarely removed; and Mrs. Clancy's plan was to take Mike to the distant east, "where she had friends." There were other schemes and projects, no doubt, but these mainly concerned our leading characters, and one and all they were put to the right about by the events of the following day.

The colonel, with his gruff second in command, Maj. Stannard, had been un-



The driver caught sight of Lieut. Hayne waving his hand.

der orders for several days to proceed on this particular date to a large town a day's journey eastward by rail. A court martial composed mainly of field officers was ordered there to assemble for the trial of an old captain of cavalry whose propensity it was not so much to get drunk as never to get drunk without concomitant publicity and discovery. It was a rare thing for the old war dog to take so much as a glass of wine; he went for months without it; but the instant he began to drink he was moved to do or say something disreputable, and that was the trouble now. He was an unlucky old trooper, who had risen from the lowest grades, fought with credit, and even, at times, commanded his regiment during the war; but war records could not save him when he wouldn't save himself, and he had to go. The court was ordered, and the result was a foregone conclusion. The colonel, his adjutant and Maj. Stannard were to drive to town during the afternoon and take the east bound train, leaving Maj. Waldron in command of the post; but before guard mounting a telegram was received, which was sent from department headquarters the evening before, announcing that one of the officers detailed for the court was seriously ill and directing Maj. Waldron to take his place. So it resulted in the post being left to the command of the senior captain present for duty, and that man was Capt. Buxton. He had never had so big a command before in all his life.

Maj. Waldron of course had to go home and make his preparations. Mr. Hayne, therefore, had brief opportunity to speak with him. It was seen, however, that they had a short talk together on the major's piazza, and that when they parted the major shook him warmly and cordially by the hand. Rayner, Buxton, Ross and some juniors happened to be coming down along the walk at the moment, and, seeing them, as though with pointed meaning the major called out, so that all could hear:

"By the way, Hayne, I wish you would drop in occasionally while I'm gone and take Mrs. Waldron out for a walk or drive; my horses are always at your service. And—a—I'll write to you about that matter the moment I've had a chance to talk with the colonel—to-morrow, probably." And Hayne touched his cap in parting salute, and went blithely off with brightened eye and rising color.

Buxton glowered after him a moment, and conversation suddenly ceased in their party. Finally he blurted out:

"Strikes me your major might do a good deal better by himself and his regiment by standing up for its morale and discipline than by openly flaunting his favoritism for convicts in our faces. If I were in your regiment I'd cut him."

"You wouldn't have to," muttered one of the group to his neighbor; "the cut would have been on the other side long ago." And the speaker was Buxton's own subaltern.

Rayner said nothing. His eyes were troubled and anxious, and he looked after Hayne with an expression far more wearied than vindictive.

"The major is fond of music, captain," said Mr. Ross, with mischievous intent. "He hasn't been to the club since the night you sang 'Eileen Alanna.' That was about the time Hayne's piano came."

"Yes," put in Foster, "Mrs. Waldron says he goes and owls Hayne now night after night just to hear him play."

"It would be well for him, then, if he kept a better guard on Mr. Hayne's other visitors," said Buxton, with a black scowl. "I don't know how you gentlemen in the Riflers look upon such matters, but in the —th the man who dared to introduce a woman of the town into his quarters would be kicked out in short order."

"You don't mean to say that anybody accuses Hayne of that, do you?" asked Ross, in amaze.

"I do—just that. Only, I say this to you, it has but just come to light, and only one or two know it. To prove it positively he's got to be allowed more rope; for he got her out of the way last time before we could clinch the matter. If he suspects it is known he won't repeat it; if kept to ourselves he will probably try it again—and he caught. Now I charge you all to regard this as confidential."

"But, Capt. Buxton," said Ross, "this is so serious a matter that I don't like to believe it. Who can prove such a story?"

"Of course not, Mr. Ross. You are quite ready to treat a man as a thief, but can't believe he'll do any other that is disreputable. That is characteristic of your style of reasoning," said Buxton, with biting sarcasm.

"You can't wither me with contempt, Capt. Buxton. I have a right to my opinion, and I have known Mr. Hayne for years, and if I did believe him guilty of one crime five years ago I'm not so ready to believe him guilty of another now. This isn't—isn't like Hayne."

"No, of course not, as I said before. Now, will you tell me, Mr. Ross, just why Mr. Hayne chose that ramshackle old shanty out there on the prairie, all by himself, unless it was to be where he could have his chosen companions with him at night, and no one be the wiser?"

"I don't pretend to fathom his motives, sir; but I don't believe it was for any such purpose as you seem to think."

"In other words, you think I'm circulating baseless scandal do you?"

"I have said nothing of the kind; and I protest against your putting words into my mouth I never used."

"You intimated as much, anyhow, and you plainly don't believe it."

"Well, I don't believe—that is, I don't see how it could happen."

"Couldn't the woman drive out from town after dark, send the carriage back, and have it call for her again in the morning?" asked Buxton.

"Possibly. Still, it isn't a proved fact that a woman spent the night at Hayne's, even if a carriage was seen coming out. You've got hold of some Sudsville gossip, probably," replied Ross.

"I have, have I? By God, sir, I'll teach you better manners before we get through with this question. Do you know who saw the carriage, and who saw the woman, both at Hayne's quarters?"

"Certainly I don't! What I don't understand is how you should have been made the recipient of the story."

"Mr. Ross, just govern your tongue, sir, and remember you are speaking to your superior officer, and don't venture to treat my statement with disrespect hereafter. I saw it myself!"

"You!" gulped Ross, while amaze and incredulity shot across his startled face.

"You!" exclaimed others of the group, in evident astonishment and dismay. Rayner alone looked unchanged. It was no news to him, while to every other man in the party it was a shock. Up to that instant the prevailing belief had been with Ross that Buxton had found some garrison gossip and was building an edifice thereon. His positive statement, however, was too much for the most incredulous.

"Now what have you to say?" he asked, in rude triumph.

There was no answer for a moment; then Ross spoke:

"Of course, Capt. Buxton, I withdraw any expression of doubt. It never occurred to me that you could have seen it. May I ask when and how?"

"The last time I was officer of the day, sir; and Capt. Rayner is my witness as to the time. Others, whom I need not mention, saw it with me. There is no mistake, sir. The woman was there." And Buxton stood enjoying the effect.

Ross looked white and dazed. He turned slowly away, hesitated, looked back, then exclaimed:

"You are sure it was—it was not some one that had a right to be there?"

"How could it be?" said Buxton, gruffly. "You know he has not an acquaintance in town, or here, who could be with him there at night."

"Does the commanding officer know of it?" asked Mr. Royce, after a moment's silence.

"I am the commanding officer, Mr. Royce," said Buxton, with majestic dignity—"at least I will be after 12 o'clock; and you may depend upon it, gentlemen, this thing will not occur while I am in command without its receiving the exact treatment it deserves. Remember, now, not a word of this to anybody. You are as much interested as I am in bringing to justice a man who will disgrace his uniform and his regiment and insult every lady in the garrison by such an act. This sort of thing of course will run him out of the service for good and all. We simply have to be sure of our ground and make the evidence conclusive. Leave that to me the next time it happens. I repeat, say nothing of this to any one."

But Rayner had already told his wife.

Just as Maj. Waldron was driving off to the station that bright April afternoon, and his carriage was whirling through the east gate, the driver caught sight of Lieut. Hayne running up Prairie avenue, waving his hand and shouting to him. He reigned in his spirited bays with some difficulty, and Hayne finally caught up with them.

"What is it, Hayne?" asked Waldron, with kindly interest, leaning out of his carriage.

"They will be back to-night, sir. Here is a telegram that has just reached me."

"I can't tell you how sorry I am not to be here to welcome them; but Mrs. Waldron will be delighted, and she will come to call the moment you let her know. Keep them till I get back, if you possibly can."

"Ay, ay, sir. Good-by."

"Good-by, Hayne. God bless you, and —good luck!"

A little later that afternoon Mrs. Rayner had occasion to go into her sister's room. It was almost sunset, and Nellie had been summoned downstairs to see visitors. Both the ladies were busy with their packing, Mrs. Rayner, as became an invalid, superintending, and Miss Travers, as became the junior, doing all the work. It was rather trying to pack all the trunks and receive visitors of both sexes at odd hours. Some of her garrison acquaintances would have been glad to come and help, but those whom she would have welcomed were not agreeable to the lady of the house, and those the lady of the house would have chosen were not agreeable to her. The relations between the sisters were somewhat strained and unnatural, and had been growing more and more so for several days past. Mrs. Rayner's desk was already packed away. She wanted to send a note, and bethought her of her sister's portfolio.

Opening it she drew out some paper and envelopes, and with the latter came an envelope sealed and directed. One glance at its superscription sent the blood to her cheek and fire to her eye. Was it possible? Was it credible? Her pet, her baby sister, her pride and delight—until she found her stronger in will—her proud spirited, truthful Nell was beyond question corresponding with Lieut. Hayne! Here was a note addressed to him. How many more might not have been exchanged! Ruthlessly now she explored the desk, searching for something from him, but her scrutiny was vain. Oh, what could she say, what could she do, to convey to her erring sister an adequate sense of the extent of her displeasure? How could she bring her to realize the shame, the guilt, the scandal of her course? She, Nellie Travers, the betrothed wife of Steven Van Antwerp, corresponding secretly with this—this scoundrel, whose past, crime laden as it had been, was as nothing compared to the present with its degradation of vice! Ah! she had it! What would ever move her as that could and must?

When the trumpets rang out their sunset call and the boom of the evening gun shook the windows in Fort Warrener and Nellie Travers came running upstairs again to her room, she started at the sight that met her eyes. There stood Mrs. Rayner, like Juno in wrath inflexible, glaring at her from the commanding height of which she was so proud, and pointing in speechless indignation at the little note that lay upon the open portfolio.

For a moment neither spoke. Then Miss Travers, who had turned very white, but whose blue eyes never flinched and whose lips were set and whose little foot was tapping the carpet ominously, thus began:

"Kate, I do not recognize your right to overhaul my desk or supervise my correspondence."

"Understand this first, Cornelia," said Mrs. Rayner, who hated the baptismal name as much as did her sister, and used it only when she desired to be especially and desperately impressive: "I found it by accident. I never dreamed of such a possibility as this. I never, even after what I have seen and heard, could have believed you guilty of this; but, now that I have found it, I have the right to ask, what are its contents?"

"I decline to tell you."

"Do you deny my right to inquire?"

"I will not discuss that question now. The other is far graver. I will not tell you, Kate, except this: there is no word there that an engaged girl should not write."

"Of that I mean to satisfy myself, or rather"——

"You will not open it, Kate. No! Put that letter down! You have never known me to prevaricate in the faintest degree, and you have no excuse for doubting. I will furnish a copy of that for Mr. Van Antwerp at any time; but you cannot see it."

"You still persist in your wicked and unnatural intimacy with that man, even after all that I have told you. Now for the last time hear me; I have striven not to tell you this; I have striven not to sully your thoughts by such a revelation; but, since nothing else will check you, tell it I must, and what I tell you my husband told me in sacred confidence, though soon enough it will be a scandal to the whole garrison."

And when darkness settled down on Fort Warrener that starlit April evening and the first warm breeze from the south came sighing about the casements, and one by one the lights appeared along officers' row, there was no light in Nellie Travers' window. The little note lay in ashes on the hearth, and she, with burning, shame stricken cheeks, with a black, scorching, gnawing pain at her heart, was hiding her face in her pillow.

And yet it was a jolly evening after all—that is, for some hours and for some people. As Mrs. Rayner and her sister were so soon to go, probably by the morrow's train if their section could be secured, the garrison had decided to have an informal dance as a suitable farewell. Their announcement of impending departure had come so suddenly and unexpectedly that there was no time to prepare anything elaborate, such as a german with favors, etc.; but good music and an extemporized supper could be had without trouble. The colonel's wife and most of the cavalry ladies, on consultation, had decided that it was the very thing to do, and the young officers took hold with a will: they were always ready for a dance.

Now that Mrs. Rayner was really going, the quarrel should be ignored, and the ladies would all be as pleasant to her as though nothing had happened, provided, of course, she dropped her absurd airs of injured womanhood and behaved with courtesy. The colonel had had a brief talk with his better half before starting for the train, and suggested that it was very probable that Mrs. Rayner had seen the folly of her ways by that time—the captain certainly had been behaving as though he regretted the estrangement—and if encouraged by a "let's-drop-the-whole-thing" sort of manner she would be glad to reciprocate. He felt far less anxiety herein than he did in leaving the post to the command of Capt. Buxton. So scrupulously had he been courteous to that intractable veteran that Buxton had no doubt in his own mind that the colonel looked upon him as the model officer of the regiment. It was singularly unfortunate that he should have to be left in command, but his one or two seniors among the captains were away on long leave, and there was no help for it. The colonel, seriously disquieted, had a few words of earnest talk with him before leaving the post, cautioning him so particularly not to interfere with any of the established details and customs that Buxton got very much annoyed, and showed it.

"If your evidence were not imperatively necessary before this court I declare I believe I'd leave you behind," said the colonel to his adjutant. "There is no telling what mischief Capt. Buxton won't do if left to himself."

It must have been near midnight, and the hop was going along beautifully, and Capt. Rayner, who was officer of the day, was just escorting his wife into supper, and Nellie, although looking a trifle tired and pale, was chatting brightly with a knot of young officers, when a corporal of the guard came to the door: "The commanding officer's compliments, and he desires to see the officer of the day at once."

There was a general laugh. "Isn't that Buxton all over? The colonel would never think of sending for an officer in the dead of night, except for a fire or alarm; but old Bux begins putting on frills the moment he gets a chance. Thank God, I'm not on guard to-night!" said Mr. Royce.

"What can he want with you?" asked Mrs. Rayner, pettishly. "The idea of one captain ordering another around like this!"

"I'll be back in five minutes," said Rayner, as he picked up his sword and disappeared.

But ten minutes—fifteen—passed, and he came not. Mrs. Rayner grew worried and Mr. Blake led her out on the rude piazza to see what they could see, and several others strolled out at the same time. The music had ceased, and the night air was not too cold. Not a soul was in sight out on the starlit parade. Not an unusual sound was heard. There was nothing to indicate the faintest trouble; and yet Capt. Buxton, the commanding officer, had been called out by his "striker" or soldier servant before 11 o'clock, had not returned at all, and in little over half an hour had sent for the officer of the day. What did it mean? Questioning and talking thus among themselves, somebody said, "Hark!" and held up a warning hand.

Faint, far, muffled, there sounded on the night air a shot, then a woman's scream; then all was still.

"Mrs. Clancy again!" said one.

"That was not Mrs. Clancy, 'twas a far different voice," answered Blake, and tore away across the parade as fast as his long legs would carry him.

"Look! The guard are running too!" cried Mrs. Waldron. "What can it be?" And, sure enough, the gleam of the rifles could be seen as the men ran rapidly away in the direction of the east gate. Mrs. Rayner had grown ghastly, and was looking at Miss Travers, who with white lips and clinched hands stood leaning on one of the wooden posts and gazing with all her eyes across the dim level. Others came hurrying out from the hall. Other young officers ran in pursuit of the first starters. "What's the matter? What's happened?" were the questions that flew from lip to lip.

"I—I must go home," faltered Mrs. Rayner. "Come, Nellie!"

"Oh, don't go, Mrs. Rayner. It can't be anything serious."

But, even as they urged, a man came running towards them.

"Is the doctor here?" he panted.

"Yes. What's the trouble?" asked Dr. Pease, as he squeezed his burly form through the crowded doorway.

"You're wanted, sir. Loot'nant Hayne's shot; an' Capt. Rayner he's hurt, too, sir."

CHAPTER XV.

"I'll kill the first man who dares enter!"

Straight as an arrow Mr. Blake had sped across the parade, darted through the east gate, and, turning, had arrived breathless at the wooden porch of Hayne's quarters. Two bewildered looking members of the guard were at the door. Blake pushed his way through the little hallway and into the dimly lighted parlor, where a strange scene met his eyes; Lieut. Hayne lay senseless and white upon the lounge across the room; a young and pretty woman, singularly like him in feature and in the color of her abundant tresses, was kneeling beside him, chafing his hands, imploring him to speak—to look at her—unmindful of the fact that her feet were bare and that only a loose wrapper was thrown over her white night dress; Capt. Rayner was seated in a chair, deathly white, and striving to stanch the blood that flowed from a deep gash in his temple and forehead; he seemed still stunned as by the force of the blow that had felled him, and Buxton, speechless with amaze and heaven only knows what other emotions, was glaring at a tall, athletic stranger who, in stocking feet, undershirt and trousers, held by three frightened looking soldiers and covered by the carbine of a fourth, was hurling defiance and denunciation at the commanding officer. A revolver lay upon the floor at the feet of a corporal of the guard, who was groaning in pain. A thin veil of powder smoke floated through the room. As Blake leaped in—his cavalry shoulder knots and helmet cords gleaming in the light—a flash of recognition shot into the stranger's eyes, and he curbed his fearful excitement and stopped short in his wrath.

"What devil's work is this?" demanded Blake, glaring intuitively at Buxton.

"These people resisted my guards, and had to take the consequences," said Buxton, with surly—yet shaken—dignity.

"What were the guards doing here? What, in God's name, are you doing here?" demanded Blake, forgetful of all consideration of rank and command in the face of such evident catastrophe.

"I ordered them here—to enter and search."

A pause.

"Search what? what for?"

"For—a woman I had reason to believe he had brought out here from town."

"What? Your infernal idiot? Why, she's his own sister, and this gentleman's wife!"

The silence, broken only by the hard breathing of some of the excited men and the moaning cry of the woman, was for a moment intense.

"Isn't this Mr. Hurley?" asked Blake, suddenly, as though to make sure, and turning one instant from his furious glare at his superior officer. The stranger, still held, though no longer struggling, replied between his set teeth:

"Certainly. I've told him so."

"By heaven, Buxton, is there no limit to your asininity? What fearful work will you do next?"

"I'll arrest you, sir, if you speak another disrespectful word!" thundered Buxton, recovering consciousness that as commanding officer he could defend himself against Blake's assault.

"Do it and be—you know what I would say if a lady were not present. Do it if you think you can stand having this thing ventilated by the court. Pah! I can't waste words on you. Who's gone for the doctor? Here, you men, let go of Mr. Hurley now. Help me, Mr. Hurley, please. Get your wife back to her room. Bring me some water, one of you." And with that he was bending over Hayne and unbuttoning the fatigue uniform in which he was still dressed. Another moment and the doctor had come in, and with him half the young officers of the garrison. Rayner was led away to his own quarters. Buxton, dazed and frightened now, ordered the guards back to their post, and stood pondering over the enormity of his blunder. No one spoke to him of paid the faintest attention other than to elbow him out of the way occasionally. The doctor never so much as noticed him. Blake had briefly recounted the catastrophe to those who first arrived, and as the story went from mouth to mouth it grew no better for Buxton. Once he turned short on Mr. Foster, and in aggrieved and sullen tone remarked:

"I thought you fellows in the Riflers said he had no relations."

"We weren't apt to be invited to meet them if he had; but I don't know that anybody was in position to know anything about it. What's that got to do with this affair, I'd like to hear?"

At last somebody took him home. Mrs. Waldron, meantime, had arrived and been admitted to Mrs. Hurley's room. The doctor refused to go to Capt. Rayner's, even when a messenger came from Mrs. Rayner herself. He referred her to his assistant, Dr. Grimes. Hayne had regained consciousness, but was sorely shaken. He had been floored by a blow from the butt of a musket; but the report that he was shot proved happily untrue. His right hand still lay near the hilt of his light sword; there was little question that he had raised his weapon against a superior officer, and would have used it with telling effect.

Few people slept that night along officers' row. Never had Warrener heard of such excitement. Buxton knew not what to do. He paced the floor in agony of mind, for he well understood that there was no shirking the responsibility. From beginning to end he was the cause of the whole catastrophe. He had gone so far as to order his corporal to fire, and he knew it could be proved against him. Thank God, the perplexed corporal had shot high, and the other men, barring the one who had saved Rayner from a furious lunge of the lieutenant's sword, had used their weapons as gingerly and reluctantly as possible. At the very least, he knew, an investigation and fearful scandal must come of it. Night though it was, he sent for the acting adjutant and several of his brother captains, and, setting refreshments before them, besought their advice. He was still commanding officer de jure, but he had lost all stomach for its functions. He would have been glad to send for Blake and beg his pardon for submitting to his insubordinate and abusive language, if that course could have stopped inquiry; but he well knew that the whole thing would be noised abroad in less than no time.

At first he thought to give orders against the telegraph operator's sending any messages concerning the matter; but that would have been only a temporary hinderance: he could not control the instruments and operators in town, only three miles away. He almost wished he had been knocked down, shot or stabbed in the melee; but he had kept in the rear when the skirmish began, and Rayner and the corporal were the sufferers. They had been knocked "endwise" by Mr. Hurley's practiced fists after Hayne was struck down by the corporal's musket. It was the universal sentiment among the officers of the —th as they scattered to their homes that Buxton had "wound himself up this time, anyhow;" and no one had any sympathy for him—not one. The very best light in which he could tell the story only showed the affair as a flagrant and inexcusable outrage.

Capt. Rayner, too, was in fearful plight. He had simply obeyed orders; but all the old story of his persecution of Hayne would now be revived; all men would see in his participation in the affair only additional reason to adjudge him cruelly persistent in his hatred of the young officer, and, in view of the utter ruthlessness and wrong of this assault, would be more than ever confident of the falsity of his position in the original case. As he was slowly led up stairs to his room and his tearful wife and silent sister-in-law bathed and cleansed his wound, he saw with frightful clearness how the crush of circumstances was now upon him and his good name. Great heaven! how those words of Hayne's five years before rang, throbbed, burned, beat like trip hammers through his whirling brain! It seemed as though they followed him and his fortunes like a curse. He sat silent, stunned, awe stricken at the force of the calamity that had befallen him.

How could he ever induce an officer and a gentleman to believe that he was no instigator in this matter?—that it was all Buxton's doing, Buxton's low imagination that had conceived the possibility of such a crime on the part of Mr. Hayne, and Buxton's blundering, bull headed abuse of authority that had capped the fatal climax? It was some time before his wife could get him to speak at all. She was hysterically bemoaning the fate that had brought them into contact with such people, and from time to time giving vent to the comforting assertion that never had there been a cloud on their domestic or regimental sky until that wretch had been assigned to the Riflers. She knew from the hurried and guarded explanations of Dr. Grimes and one or two young officers who helped Rayner home that the fracas had occurred at Mr. Hayne's—that there had been a mistake for which her husband was not responsible, but that Capt. Buxton was entirely to blame. But her husband's ashen face told her a story of something far deeper; she knew that now he was involved in fearful trouble, and, whatever may have been her innermost thoughts, it was the first and irresistible impulse to throw all the blame upon her scapegoat.

Miss Travers, almost as pale and quite as silent as the captain, was busying herself in helping her sister; but she could with difficulty restrain her longing to bid her be silent. She, too, had endeavored to learn from her escort on their hurried homeward rush across the parade what the nature of the disturbance had been. She, too, had suggested Clancy, but the officer by her side set his teeth as he replied that he wished it had been Clancy. She had heard, too, the message brought by a cavalry trumpeter from Mr. Blake. He wanted Capt. Ray to come to Mr. Hayne's as soon as he had seen Mrs. Ray safely home, and would he please ask Mrs. Stannard to come with him at the same time? Why should Mr. Blake want Mrs. Stannard at Mr. Hayne's? She saw Mr. Foster run up and speak a few words to Mrs. Waldron and heard that lady reply, "Certainly; I will go with you now." What could it mean? At last, as she was returning to her sister's room after a moment's absence, she heard a question at which her heart stood still. It was Mrs. Rayner who asked:

"But the creature was there, was she not?"

The answer sounded more like a moan of anguish:

"The creature was his sister. It was her husband who"——

But, as Capt. Rayner buried his battered face in his hands at this juncture, the rest of the sentence was inaudible. Miss Travers had heard quite enough, however. She stood there one moment, appalled, dropped upon the floor the bandage she had been making, turned and sought her room, and was seen no more that night.

Over the day or two that followed this affair the veil of silence may best be drawn, in order to give time for the sediment of truth to settle through the whirlpool of stories in violent circulation. The colonel came back on the first train after the adjournment of the court, and could hardly wait for that formality. Contrary to his custom of "sleeping on" a question, he was in his office within half an hour after his return to the post, and from that time until near tattoo was busily occupied taking the statements of the active participants in the affair. This was three days after its occurrence; and Capt. Rayner, though up and able to be about, had not left his quarters. Mrs. Rayner had abandoned her trip to the east, for the present at least.

Mr. Hayne still lay weak and prostrate in his darkened room, attended hourly by Dr. Pease, who feared brain fever, and nursed assiduously by Mrs. Hurley, for whom Mrs. Waldron, Mrs. Stannard, and many other ladies in the garrison could not do enough to content themselves. Mr. Hurley's wrist was badly sprained and in a sling; but the colonel went purposely to call upon him and to shake his other hand, and he begged to be permitted to see Mrs. Hurley, who came in pale and soft eyed, and with a gentle demeanor that touched the colonel more than he could tell. Her cheek flushed for a moment as he bent low over her hand, and told her how bitterly he regretted that his absence from the post had resulted in so grievous an experience; it was not the welcome he and his regiment would have given her had they known of her intended visit. To Mr. Hurley he briefly said that he need not fear but that full justice would be meted out to the instigator or instigators of the assault; but, as a something to make partial amends for their suffering, he said that nothing now could check the turn of the tide in their brother's favor. All the cavalry officers except Buxton, all the infantry officers except Rayner, had already been to call upon him since the night of the occurrence, and had striven to show how distressed they were over the outrageous blunders of their temporary commander.

Buxton had written a note expressive of a desire to see him and "explain," but was informed that explanations from him simply aggravated the injury; and Rayner, crushed and humiliated, was fairly in hiding in his room, too sick at heart to want to see anybody, and waiting for the action of the authorities in the confident expectation that nothing less than court martial and disgrace would be his share of the outcome. He would gladly have resigned and gone at once, but that would have been resigning under virtual charges; he had to stay, and his wife had to stay with him, and Nellie with her. By this time Nelli Travers did not want to go. She had but one thought now—to make amends to Mr. Hayne for the wrong her thoughts had done him. It was time for Mr. Van Antwerp to come to the wide west and look after his interests, but Mrs. Rayner had ceased to urge, while he continued to implore her to bring Nellie east at once. Almost any man as rich and independent as Steven Van Antwerp would have gone to the scene and settled matters for himself. Singularly enough, this one solution of the problem seemed never to occur to him as feasible.

Meantime the colonel had patiently unraveled the threads and had brought to light the whole truth and nothing but the truth. It made a singularly simple story, after all; but that was so much the worse for Buxton. The only near relation Mr. Hayne had in the world was this one younger sister, who six years before had married a manly, energetic fellow, a civil engineer in the employ of an eastern railway. During Hayne's "mountain station" exile Hurley had brought his wife to Denver, where far better prospects awaited him. He won promotion in his profession, and was now one of the principal engineers employed by a road running new lines through the Colorado Rockies. Journeying to Salt Lake, he came around by way of Warrener, so that his wife and he might have a look at the brother she had not seen in years. Their train was due there early in the afternoon, but was blocked by drifts and did not reach the station until late at night. There they found a note from him begging them to take a carriage they would find waiting for them and come right out and spend the night at his quarters; he would send them back in abundant time to catch the westward train in the morning. He could not come in, because that involved the necessity of asking his captain's permission, and they knew his relations with that captain.

It was her shadow Buxton had seen on the window screen; and as none of Buxton's acquaintances had ever mentioned that Hayne had any relations, and as Hayne, in fact, had had no one for years to talk to about his personal affairs, nobody but himself and the telegraph operator at the post really knew of their sudden visit. Buxton, being an unmitigated cad, had put the worst interpretation on his discovery, and, in his eagerness to clinch the evidence of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman upon Mr. Hayne, had taken no wise head into his confidence. Never dreaming that the shadow could be that of a blood relation, never doubting that a fair, frail companion from the frontier town was the explanation of Mr. Hayne's preference for that out of the way house and late hours, he stated his discovery to Rayner as a positive fact, going so far as to say that his sentries had recognized her as she drove away in the carriage. If he had not been an ass as well as a cad, he would have interviewed the driver of the carriage; but he had jumped at his theory, and his sudden elevation to the command of the post gave him opportunity to carry out his virtuous determination that no such goings on should disgrace his administration.

He gave instructions to certain soldier clerks and "daily duty" men employed in the quartermaster, commissary and ordnance offices along Prairie avenue to keep their eyes open and let him know of any visitors coming out to Hayne's by night, and if a lady came in a carriage he was to be called at once. Mr. Hurley promised that on their return from Salt Lake they would come back by way of Warrener and spend two days with Hayne, since only an hour or two had they enjoyed of his company on their way west; and the very day that the officers went off to the court came the telegram saying the Hurleys would arrive that evening. Hayne had already talked over their prospective visit with Maj. Waldron, and the latter had told his wife; but all intercourse of a friendly character was at an end between them and the Rayners and Buxtons; there were no more gossipy chats among the ladies. Indeed, it so happened that only to one or two people had Mrs. Waldron had time to mention that Mr. Hayne's sister was coming, and neither the Rayners nor Buxtons had heard of it; neither had Nellie Travers, for it was after the evening of her last visit that Mrs. Waldron was told.

Hayne ran with his telegram to the major, and the latter had introduced himself and Maj. Stannard to Mrs. Hurley, when, after a weary wait of some hours, the train arrived. Blake, too, was there, on the lookout for some friends, and he was presented to Mrs. Hurley while her husband was attending to some matters about the baggage. The train went on eastward, carrying the field officers with it. Blake had to go with his friends back to the post, and Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, after the former had attended to some business and seen some railway associates of his at the hotel, took the carriage they had had before and drove out to the garrison, where Private Schweinkopf saw the lady rapturously welcomed by Lieut. Hayne and escorted into the house, while Mr. Hurley remained settling with the driver out in the darkness. It was not long before the commanding officer pro tem. was called from the hop room, where the dance was going on delightfully, and notified that the mysterious visitor had again appeared, with evident intention of spending the night, as the carriage had returned to town.

"Why, certainly," reasoned Buxton. "It's the very night he would choose, since everybody will be at the hop; no one will be apt to interfere, and everybody will be unusually drowsy and less inclined to take notice in the morning." Here was ample opportunity for a brilliant stroke of work. He would first satisfy himself she was there, then surround the house with sentries so that she could not escape, while he, with the officer of the day and the corporal of the guard, entered the house and confronted him and her. That would wind up Mr. Hayne's career beyond question; nothing short of dismissal would result. Over he went, full of his project, listened at Hayne's like the eavesdropping sneak

CONTINUED ON 4TH PAGE.

The Independent.

JAMES KIBBEE, Ed. and Pub.

INDEPENDENT IN NAME and IN FACT.

Published at Lincoln, Lincoln County, New Mexico, every Friday.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY

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RELIABLE CORRESPONDENCE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTY SOLICITED.

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1890.

HON. E. F. SEED, of Iowa, has been appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Mexico, vice Judge Whiteman, resigned.

THE INDEPENDENT is pleased to acknowledge receipt of the wedding card of District Clerk A. L. Christy. On the 16th inst., at Las Cruces, he was united in marriage to Miss Sophia French, one of the loveliest of the fair Mesilla Valley belles. Mr. and Mrs. Christy will be "at home" to their friends after August 5th.

AS WILL be seen by the letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, published in this issue, the settlers who have been living on government lands which were surveyed but the township plats not filed, can now prove up on their property as soon as the plats are on file at the land office, the time they have lived continuously on said land being counted just the same as though the plat had been filed before settlement. This decision will be welcomed by many Lincoln county settlers who are anxious to "prove up" but have been afraid that they would have to serve two terms on their land before getting title.

AN ARTICLE went the rounds of the papers a short time ago, stating that G. H. Lawton, the new contractor on the Lincoln and San Antonio mail line, was trying to have the route discontinued, owing to the alleged low price at which said contract was taken. The Santa Fe *New Mexican* raised a particularly loud and doleful wail in behalf of the people of Lincoln county, on account of the supposed effort to have the route discontinued. Mr. Lawton was a stranger to most of our people, but he had a few friends here who, knowing him to be an honorable and straightforward gentleman, believed that the reports were false, and only started by maliciously inclined persons who wished to injure Mr. Lawton and cause him all the trouble and annoyance possible. So these friends wrote to Washington direct, and sure enough the responses came from headquarters that no proposition whatever for the abandonment of said line had even been received or entertained by the department, but that two protests against such (imaginary) abandonment had been received! So it goes. Lies, (as well as murder) will "out," and the people who tell them generally have to bear the consequences of their evil deeds. In the meantime the new mail contract is being fulfilled to the letter, and the indications are that it will so continue, so long as G. H. Lawton's name stands on the records as contractor.

The Louisiana lottery fight has wound up in a big suit. The bill had passed the house over the governor's veto and was about to go through the senate by a scratch, when one of the friends of the measure died. This just before the session expired. Now the lottery people will go into the courts and dispute the authority of the governor to veto the bill. It will be a long and bitter fight and may rend the Louisiana Democracy in twain before it is finished.—*New Mexican.*

COMMISSIONER'S COURT.

Regular term of County Commissioners of Lincoln county, held at Lincoln N. M., Monday, July 7th.

PRESENT:—Hon. M. Cronin, chairman; A. Green, member; T. W. Henley, member, and George Curry clerk of Board and D. C. Nowlin, Sheriff.

Minutes of last regular term read and approved.

Bonds of county and precinct affairs examined and found satisfactory.

Adjourned until 1 p. m.

Afternoon session, July 7th.

Assessment of Gurum & Bronson for 1890, declared erroneous, the same property having been assessed to Bronson.

Assessment of G. W. Zellner and T. B. Alexander for 1889, declared erroneous, the same property being assessed against Jas. A. Alcock.

The following changes in assessment for 1890 were made upon sworn statements, viz:

Samuel Slane—reduced on all bulls, under grounds of not being of any more value than common cattle.

Penasco Cattle Co.—reduced to 100 bulls.

Concho Cattle Co.—reduced to 25 bulls.

M. Whiteman—reduced on Mdse. to original assessment.

P. F. Garrett—reduced $550.00 on a raise of $1,150 on Eddy town lots.

El Capitan Cattle Co.—reduced on 500 head of cattle, being the number of bulls assessed against him.

Littlefield Cattle Co.—reduced 460 head of cattle, being the number of bulls assessed.

Lea Cattle Co.—reduced on 600 head of cattle, being the number of bulls assessed against them.

Jaffa, Prager & Co.—reduced $300 on an increase of $700 on Eddy town lots, and petition for rebate on merchandise refused.

Chas. B. Eddy—reduced $2,570 on an increase of $10,285 on Eddy town lots.

Pecos Valley Land & Ditch Co.—reduced $300, on increase of $1,900 on Eddy town lots.

Pecos Valley Irrigation & Improvement company—reduced $400 on an increase of $1,360 on Eddy town lots.

Eddy Hotel Co.—reduced $450 on an increase $1,550 on Eddy town lots.

Lea Cattle company—reduced on 20 acres of land from $50 to $30 per acre.

Chas. H. Sparks—reduced on 20 acres of land from 50 to $30 per acre.

Geo. T. Ovard—reduced on 60 acres from 40 to $30 per acre.

Pecos Valley Town Co.—raised on 145 acres of land from 3 to $30 per acre and reduced 5,818 on increase of $23,275 on Eddy town lots

Eddy-Bissell Live Stock Co.—reduced 600 head of cattle, being the number of bulls assessed against them.

Adjourned until 8 a. m., July 8th.

Morning session, July 8th, 1890.

Mrs. F. M. Goodin—reduced to 25 bulls.

Assessment of B. F. Mallory on lot 10, block 1, in town of Eddy, declared erroneous and Assessor directed to assess said lot against Wm. Johnson, the owner on March 1st.

Assessor directed to receive sworn return of T. W. Heman, in lieu on one assessed on information.

Number of bulls assessed against Edwin Terrell, ordered deducted from number of cattle assessed against him.

Samuel Slane, reduced to 12 bulls and 12 head deducted from assessment on cattle.

J. H. Robinson, reduced $287 on an increase of $1,150 on Eddy lots.

Non-assessment penalty against Calkins Cattle company, A. J. Houghton, O. L. Houghton, for 1890 rebated.

Petition of W. H. Weed, for rebate on property of J. T. Reid, rejected.

On sworn statement of W. C. McDonald, manager Carrizozo Cattle company, that said company own no graded bulls, except old ones, the petition for rebate is granted.

Holcomb & Miller, reduced to original assessment on cattle.

Bloom Cattle Co., reduced 400 head of cattle, being the number of bulls assessed against them.

Clark, Garst & Garst, reduced to 20 bulls.

Felix Cattle company, reduced to 50 graded bulls, balance being same as cattle.

Goodman, Zeigler & Co., reduced to original assessment on merchandise.

Pierce, Lea & Co., reduced to 8 graded bull.

Ella C. Pierce, reduced to 4 graded bulls.

W. M. Jones, reduced to original assessment.

Robert McGee, reduced on assessment of 1889, $600.

Jinglebob Land & Live Stock Co., reduced from 1,000 to 600 graded bulls.

Milne, Bush Land & Cattle company, reduced 253 head of cattle, being the number of graded bulls assessed against them.

Rosenthal & Co., reduced to original assessment.

Ygenio Salazar, reduced from 80 to 60 head of cattle and from 3 to 2 graded bulls and penalty rebated.

Adjourned until 1 p. m.

Afternoon session, July 8th.

Florencio Gonzales, reduced to original assessment.

Pecos Valley Mercantile company reduced to original assessment.

Peter Corn, rebated $800 on assessment of 1889.

The following bonds were approved by board, viz: T. B. Zoumoult, road supervisor for precinct No. 11; W. W. Paul, road supervisor precinct No. 15; A. W. Bryan, constable, precinct No. 15; Geo. W. Coe, road supervisor, precinct No. 2; A. C. Storm, road supervisor, precinct No. 12; S. H. Larremour, road supervisor, precinct No. 16; J. P. C. Langston, constable precinct No. 8; Demetrio Perea, constable, precinct No. 1; Samuel D. Houston, constable, precinct No. 5; C. O. Perry, constable, precint No. 7.

Report A. M. Richardson, J. P. precinct No. 6, approved.

Report of A. Lawrence, J. P., precinct No. 9 approved.

Adjourned until 8 a. m., July 9.

Morning session, July 9th.

The following bills were allowed and warrants drawn on county treasurer for same, viz:

J. J. Rascoe, services as constable, $210.55, allowed for	$ 187.05
Ygenio Garcia, services as constable, $10.05, allowed for	7.55
Scott Jordan, services as deputy sheriff, $51.90, allowed for	48.40
C. C. Perry, services as deputy sheriff, $102, allowed for	160.60
C. C. Perry, services as deputy sheriff	264.25
C. C. Perry, services as deputy sheriff, $17.25, allowed for	14.80
J. H. Lewis, special constable, $69, allowed for	53.00
J. P. C. Langston, Dept. Sheriff,	147.83
Joseph H. Whiteman, interpreting in J. P. court	6.00
M. Gaberra, interpreting in J. P. court	8.00
W. P. Seymour, attendance on wounded officer	23.60
H. C. Van Norman, medical attendance on wounded officer	50.00
A. M. Richardson, services as J P	6.55
Geo. Sena, interpreting in J. P. court	2.00
H. M. Nowlin, services as jailor.	217.50
D. C. Nowlin, board of prisoners,	128.00
D. C. Nowlin, services as sheriff,	108.25
D. C. Nowlin, cash expended for Co.	10.25
Cruz Herrera, care of pauper,	24.00
J. A. Allen, printing for county.	5.00
J. W. Prude, services as J. P., for $35, allowed for	18.25
L. W. Neatherlin, balance due on 1889, assessment	231.29
Geo. W. Wood, deputy sheriff	42.25
J. A. Curuth, printing for Co.	10.50
M. Cronin, Mdse, for Co.	24.00
J. N. Coe, services as coroner,	88.50
Geo. Kimbrell, services as road supervisor,	10.00
T. B. McCourt, services as J. P.	90.00
M. A. Sisneros, interpreting in probate court,	12.00
W. R. Ellis, painting court house porch,	30.00
E. C. Wade, services as Dist. Attorney,	75.00
T. C. Crouch, services as guard	19.50
James Kibbee, printing for Co.,	20.50
John Guess, mileage as coroner's jury	17.00
J. W. Thompson, mileage as coroner's jury	17.00
E. T. Cussenberry, mileage as coroner's jury,	17.00
Floyd Powell, mileage as coroner's jury,	17.00
T. C. Crouch, mileage as coroner's jury	17.00
J. P. Jones, mileage as coroner's ury	17.00
E. Orr, services as J. P.	62.00
Geo. Curry, services as county clerk	46.00
A. Green, services as county commissioner	33.90
T. W. Henley, services as county commissioner	20.30
M. Cronin, services as county commissioner	76.65
Jas. Kibbee, printing for Co.	40.00
M. M. Miller, services as J. P.	3.00
Scott Jordon, services as deputy sheriff	80.13

Adjourned until 1 p. m. July 9th.

Afternoon session, July 9th.

The following bills were allowed, viz:

W. M. Atkinson, services as J. P.	$ 6.55
Manuel Mestas, services as J. P.	6 45
G. M. Davidson, services as J. P.	45.31
Jose Cordova, services as J. P.	60.80
M. A. Sisneros, interpreting in J. P. court	36.00
Demetrio Pered, services as constable	50.74

Adjourned untill July 10th.

Morning session, July 10th.

The following bills were allowed, viz:

Francisco Romero y Lueras, services as probate judge,	$100.00
Lincoln Ditch Co., water rent.	15.00
G. R. Young, Co. Treasurer,	125.00
L. W. Neatherlin, on assessment of 1890	1000.00
Geo. Curry, part payment on tax rolls,	300.00
John Newcomb, care of pauper	68.00
Jno. K. Byers, Supt. of schools,	70.00
Ramon Lujan, special constable,	6.20

In matter of against county in case of Sam Stone, pauper, all accounts to be presented through sheriff of county as heretofore ruled.

Bill of constable precinct No 16, laid over. Name of constable not being in the account.

Report of T. B. McCourt, J. P., precinct No. 8, approved.

Petition of B. A. Nymeyer for reduction on lots 26 and 28, block 7, in town of Eddy on which the Eddy house stands, rejected, as he was not assessed on improvement on lots.

Report of E. Orr, J. P. precinct No. 18, approved.

Oral petition of Isaac Ellis for rebate of assessment of Mrs. Nancy Ellis, rejected; no sworn statement being presented.

On recommendation of L. W. Neatherlin, M. M. Davis is appointed constable for precinct No. 20.

On recommendation of T. W. Henly, Jose Torres y Chaves is appointed constable for precint No. 11.

Report of J. W. Prude, precinct No. 16, approved.

Report of L. W. Bourne, J. P. precinct No. 12, approved.

Mrs. Ada B. Davis is rebated $240 on land.

Report of W. M. Atkinson, J. P., precinct No. 7, approved.

Report of G. M. Davidson, J. P., precinct No. 7, approved.

Report of Jose Cordoba, J. P., precinct No. 1, approved.

On recommendation of B. F. Mallory, B. F. Whittaker is appointed constable for precinct No. 14, and directed to qualify according to law.

On petition of citizens of precinct No. 5, Samuel D. Houston is appointed constable for said precinct, and directed to quilify according to law.

Resignation of W. M. Atkinson, J. P. precinct No. 7, accepted, and on recommendation of G. A. Richardson and C. C. Perry, J. H. Morrison is hereby appointed and directed to qualify according to law.

On recommendation of G. A. Richardson and others, C. C. Perry is appointed constable for precinct No. 7, and directed to qualify according to law.

Resignation of A. Lawrence, J. P. precinct No. 9, accepted, and on petition of citizens of said precinct, Alf Hunter is appointed to serve out unexpired term, and directed to qualify according to law.

Resignation of H. C. Brown, J. P. precinct No. 3, accepted.

On petition of citizens of precinct No. 2, Damien Gutierres is appointed constable for said precinct, and directed to qualify according to law.

Petition of citizens of Raventon and vicinity for a new precinct, signed by 55 residents of the proposed precinct, granted and precinct No. 21 is hereby established with the following boundary, viz:

Beginning at the southeast corner of township 6, south of range 14 east, upon the west boundary line of precinct No. 6, thence west along the south boundary of said township to the southwest corner thereof; thence north along the range line between ra ges 13 and 14 east, four miles or thereabouts to the corner of sections seven (7), twelve (12), thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) on said line; thence west along section line to the northwest corner of sec. 15, tow'p 6 south of range 13 east; thence north along section line to the closing corners of sections three (3) and four (4) on the north boundary of said township, first standard parallel south; thence along the standard parallel to the standard corner to sections 33 and 34, township 5 south, of range 12 east; thence north along the meridian line of range 12 east to the south boundary of precinct No. 13; thence east along the south boundary of precinct No. 13 to the west boundary of precinct No. 6; thence south along the said last named boundary to the point of beginning.

Adjourned until 1 p. m., July 10.

Afternoon session, July 10.

Held by this board that the boundary line between the counties of Dona Ana and Lincoln as surveyed by W. F. Blanchard, surveyor, and established by concurrence of the commissioners' boards of these counties be, and is hereby recognized as the correct and official boundary line between said counties until otherwise determined by higher authority, and the collector of Lincoln county is hereby ordered to collect taxes from each and every person subject to same in all that country forming part of Lincoln county as determined by the official survey aforesaid. And clerk is hereby ordered to transmit certified copy of same to board commissioners Dona Ana county,

Now comes collector and submits a list and report of uncollectable taxes for the years 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887 and 1888 amounting in the different funds to $37,035.58, and it being made satisfactory and conclusive to the board that said collector was untiring in his efforts to collect taxes aforesaid, but without success, and it being evident that little or none of said taxes can now, or hereafter, be collected without an attendant expense on county in amount more than collections made. It is hereby ordered that the amount of said uncollectable taxes, viz: $37,035.58 accrued for the years aforesaid be credited to collector's account in the different funds, and that he be, and is hereby, relieved from any and all responsibility for such,

The following persons are hereby appointed to serve as boards of registration for the ensuing election, and clerk directed to notify them, viz:

Prec't 1.—Chas. Weidman, Jose Montano and Isaac Friedrich.

Prec't 2.—Florencio Gonzales, George Coe and Francisco Mastes.

Prec't 3.—C. W. Wingfield, Josh Hale and Fernando Herrera.

Prec't 4.—John Burns, Wallace Brockway and Martin Chaves.

Prec't 8.—George L. Ulrick, Geo. B. Barber and W. C. McDonald.

Prec't 6.—A. M. Richardson, W. H. Lumbley and Jose Jurado.

Prec't 9.—Alf Hunter, A. M. Coe and Mr. McNatt.

Prec't 11.—P. G. Peters, J. E. Wharton and R. C. Russell.

Prec't 12.—Peter Burleson, John Skinner and H. Conbrouch.

Prec't 13.—Jones Taliaferro, Dario Sanchez and Esperidion Lueras.

Prec't 15.—T. C. Tillotson, Jas. F. Hinkle and Wm. York.

Prec't 16.—V. H. Lusk, J. B. Fletcher and Frank Garst.

Prec't 21.—Anecito Lueras, Jose Miranda and Miguel Maes.

Now comes G. R. Young, county treasurer, and turns in bonds, warrants and coupons, and is ordered credited in the different funds as follows, viz:

Special county fund,	$8,280.00
Regular " "	8,601.10
Bonds of 1889 "	872.29
School " "	3,609.52
Total,	21,362.91

Adjourned until 8 a. m., July 11.

Morning session, July 11, 1890.

Books of county treasurer and sheriff examined and found correct, and the uncollectable licenses in hands of sheriff turned in and credited to his account.

There being no further business the board adjourned sine die.

Attest: M. CRONIN, Chairman.
GEO. CURRY, Clerk.

What a wonderful change has come over the spirit of west Texas' dream within the past few years. Just think of the plows that are ripping up the soil, so recently considered sacred to the memory of the Texas steer! Why, five years ago Brownwood shipped 500 bales of cotton, and thought she was tilting the universe with her rush, and last year she handled the enormous quantity of 13,500 bales and is looking forward this year to at least 17 or 18,000. San Angelo two years ago shipped 3 bales, planted as an experiment, last year she contributed 275 bales of the "King" and this year she expects to handle 1,500 bales, which at $40 per bale will bring $60,000 into this section The beauty of it is that our cotton planters are not slaves to their crop, few of them have received advances on it, while many of them own stock and are independent, and should their cotton fail there would be no necessity for handing over their liberty to their merchants.—San Angelo, Texas, *Standard.*

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Notice For Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT LAS CRUCES, N. M.
June 14, 1890.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at Las Cruces, N. M., on July 29, 1890, viz:

Nicolas Sais,

of Tularosa, N. M., who made Hd. application No 844 for lots 3 & 4 Sec. 30, Tp. 11 S of R 10 E. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Victor Duran, Tilano Gallegos, Juan Barrio, Rosalio Lopez, all of Tularosa, N. M.

SAMUEL P. MCCREA,
Register.

Notice For Publication

LAND OFFICE AT LAS CRUCES, N. M.
June 13, 1890.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at Las Cruces, N. M., on July 25, 1890, viz

John Mullill,

of Upper Penasco, N. M., who made Homestead application No. 1557, for the NE ¼ of SE ¼ of NW ¼ & S ½ of NE ¼, Sec. 26 Tp. 16 S of R 14 E. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Robert McGee, Andrew J. Lewis, Albert M. Cox, of Upper Penasco, N. M., and Thos. C. Tillotson, of Lower Penasco, N. M.

SAMUEL P. MCCREA.
Register.

Estray Notice.

On the 1st day of February, 1890, the undersigned did take into his possession at his home, seven miles west of the town of Nogal, N. M., one estray chesnut sorrel horse, branded T71 on left hip. The owner of said horse can have him by proving property and paying charges in accordance with the provisions of the statute.

June 10, 1890. ANDREW MAYS.
jun20-6t.

B. B. ADAMS,
Contractor,
Architect
and Builder.

Plans and Specifications furnished for Buildings.
All kinds of Mill Work,
Mining Machinery,
and Heavy Framing a specialty.
WHITE OAKS, N. M.

LINCOLN & ROSWELL STAGE LINE.

Runs Daily Each Way.
Good Teams, Comfortable Hacks, Fast Time.
KIMBRELL & ROMERO,
LINCOLN, ; ; NEW MEXICO.

San Antonio AND Lincoln
STAGE LINE.
W. M. LANE, Prop.

Runs daily from San Antonio to White Oaks, Nogal, Ft. Stanton and Lincoln, in connection with railroad trains.

JAMES KIBBEE,
Agent at Lincoln.

O. L. HOUGHTON
WHOLESALE
HARDWARE!

A COMPLETE LINE OF
STOVES, FIREARMS and
AMMUNITION.

Largest stock in New Mexico in the hardware line. Barb fence wire at manufacturers prices with freight added. Manufacturers of all kinds of
TIN, COPPER AND SHEET IRON.

East Las Vegas, N. M.

We will be pleased to correspond with intending purchasers.

MANDELL BROS. & CO.
THE LEADING
HARDWARE HOUSE
Of the Southwest.

AGENT FOR
DUPONT AND CALIFORNIA GIANT POWDER.

Special attention given to Roofing and Galvanized Ironware. Full line of Agricultural Implements, Windmills, Horsepowers, etc. Write for prices.
21, 23 and 25 Front Street, Albuquerque New Mexico.

W. E. BAKER,
OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHER,
3rd Judicial District,
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO.
Typewriter ribbons for all machines, paper, carbon etc., for sale.

ROSENTHAL & CO.
—DEALERS IN—
General Merchandise, Etc.

Have now on hand the Most Complete and Best Assorted stock of Genl Merchandise in Lincoln county, consisting of
DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, SHOES, SADDLERY GROCERIES, HARDWARE, CROCKERY, LIQUORS, CIGARS.
Lincoln, New Mexico.

M. CRONIN,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
Lincoln, New Mexico.

M. C. NETTLETON,
THE ALBUQUERQUE JEWELER
DEALER IN FINE DIAMONDS,

Watches, Jewelry, Clocks, Solid Silverware, etc. Fine Watch Repairing and Diamond Setting. Watch Inspector for the A. T. & S F. R. R. Co. Manufacturer of Filigree Jewelry.

STANTON HOUSE,
LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO,
JAMES KIBBEE, Proprietor.
Strictly First-Class.
Thoroughly Renovated and Refurnished.
$2 PER DAY, AND THE WORTH OF YOUR MONEY.
First-Class Feed Stable and Corral in Connection.

The Northwestern Mutual
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Writes the BEST policy for the Policy-holder issued by any Company, and returns from 25 to 100 per cent larger dividends than any other Company, and all other Companies are
CHALLENGED
to produce in comparison policies of same date, age and kind.

The INTENDING INSURER cannot AFFORD to take LIFE INSURANCE in any other company, when he can get it in the
Northwestern, the Strongest, Safest and Best.

JESSE M. WHEELOCK,
General Agent for New Mexico.

E. S. MCPHERSON,
Special Agent, ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

The Independent.

THE LOCAL BUDGET

AGENTS FOR THE INDEPENDENT.

At White Oaks, - - Rev. N. W. Lane.
" Fort Stanton - - Sergt. Harvey.
" Upper Penasco, - - Postmaster,
" Nogal, - - - - "
" La Luz, - - - - "
" Mescalero, - - - Harry Bennett.
" Eddy, - - Fred V. Pionthowsky
" Roswell - - - - - J. D. Lea.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Terms for announcement in THE INDEPENDENT, $5, payable in advance.

COUNTY ASSESSOR.

We are authorized to announce J. B. Mathews as a candidate for election to the office of Assessor of Lincoln county at the ensuing election, Nov. 1890, subject to the action of the Republican County Convention.

New Challies and Ginghams at R. MICHAELIS & Co's.

Everybody around here knows it, but for the benefit of our friends abroad we will remark that Lincoln county has again been blessed with heavy rains during the past week.

Don't forget that Rosenthal & Co. always keep the largest and best stock of general merchandise.

R. H. Fry, the cashier of the new bank about to be opened at Roswell, is in town spending a few days visiting his cousin, Maj. W. H. H. Llewellyn. He expects to leave for Roswell on Thursday, when he will arrange for opening the bank. —Las Cruces *Democrat.*

Special Sunday dinner at the Stanton House (Lincoln) every Sunday. If you like good things to eat "take it in."

Mr. Dolan and his family, accompanied by Mr. Reymond, started yesterday morning to drive across the country to Lincoln. During his occupancy of the office of receiver here, Mr. Dolan made many friends and the people of Las Cruces regret that his retirement from office has taken him from among them.—Las Cruces *Democrat.*

Abundant supply of Hay and Grain and best attention paid to horses at Whelan & Co's.

Judge McFie returned yesterday from his trip to Washington and the East after having done some good work for the establishment of the fifth judicial district and a land court. The former has already been created, and the Judge expects the latter will be this session of congress. The Judge stated emphatically that he did not go to Washington to work for statehood, nor did he do so while there.—Las Cruces *Democrat.*

When you go to Roswell, stop with Mrs. O'Neil, at the Stanton House, if you enjoy first-class fare.

Go and see Rosenthal's new goods.

Pique and checked and striped Swiss for Ladies' dresses at R. MICHAELIS & Co's.

A farewell dinner was givn to the retiring receiver, Mr. Jas. J. Dolan, at the Commercial hotel on last Wednesday evening by his friends in the land office. The table was beautifully adressed with flowers, the menu was excellent, the wines cool, and a very pleasant time was spent.—Las Cruces *Democrat.*

Twenty wagon loads of new goods now arriving at Rosenthal & Co's.

Agate Coffee Pots, Tea Kettles, Sauce Pans, etc., at R. MICHAELIS & Co's.

Speaking of roping steers the San Marcial *Reporter* says: When Harry Crawford won the prize last year in 46½ seconds it was thought that he would never better it, but he clearly demonstrated that he could beat it this year and his record of 31½ has never been equalled. Albert Chapman and Harry Crawford publish a challenge to rope three steers each quicker than any other two men in the west. Challenge open for sixty days.

Ladies' Russet Oxford Shoes at R. MICHAELIS & Co's.

One of the greatest combats between man and reptile happened near Wagon Mound Tuesday evening between Roman Romero and a twelve foot rattlesnake. The battle lasting about one quarter of an hour before Roman could overcome his enemy, after shooting it tix times.

Rosenthal & Co. have now on exhibition one of the largest and best assorted stocks of men's and boy's clothing ever offered in Lincoln county.

As far as can be estimated Texas has a population of 3,000,000, having doubled in ten years. Its public educational fund amounts to nearly $11,000,000, and its tax rate is but 20 cents on the $100.

Every day new goods arrive at Rosenthal & Co's.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

G. O. McCarty and Mr. Zimmerman, of White Oaks, were in Lincoln last Saturday, enroute to Roswell.

Col. M. Cronin is visiting White Oaks this week, and Frank Bennett is holding down the store and selling everything away below cost.

Milton Katzenberg, representing the Albuquerque liquor house of Loewenthal & Meyers, was in the city this week on one of his regular "roundups".

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lesnet and children arrived Saturday from Roswell on a little vacation. They started yesterday morning for the Ruidoso to enjoy the fishing and mountain air.

W. H. Lumbley greeted his many Lincoln friends again this week. He looked just as happy as any stockman should look when rain and grass are plenty after a long dry spell.

Messrs G. B. Barber, D. J. M. A. Jewett, Lee Rudisille, W. F. Blanchard and Master —— Lund, of White Oaks, were in Lincoln Wednesday night and left yesterday morning to view the promised land over about Roswell.

Numa Reymond and his adopted son, Master Numa Frenzer, spent the past week with their Lincoln friends. Mr. Reymond has large interests in Lincoln county, and comes up every semi-occasionally to see how everything progresses.

J. J. Dolan and family are at last back at their old home—Lincoln—having arrived from Las Cruces last Friday. Their hosts of friends are pleased to have them here again, and hope they will never more be tempted to stray away.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolan are visiting Spring ranch this week.

Mr. and Mrs. August Rouiller and son, and John Rouiller, of Paraje, and Chas. Beljean, of Las Cruces, spent several days the past week in Lincoln visiting old and new friends. They and Mr. Reymond left yesterday to visit Col. Bennett at the Mescalero Agency, from which point the parties will separate and proceed to their respective homes.

The Roswell bank folks went through Lincoln this week, and the new bank will soon open its doors for business. The party consisted of S. M. Folsom, president of the Albuquerque National bank and of the new bank, *Mr.* Cahoon, the cashier, and *Mr.* Frye, the bookkeeper of the new bank. Also *Mr. W.* P. *Metcalf*, the manager of the Antelope Springs Cattle *Co.* U. Ozanne, *W*hite Oaks, steered the party through all O. K.

G. O. McCarty, Mr. Zimmerman, G. B. Barber, D. J. M. A. Jewett, Lee H. Rudisille, *W.* F. Blanchard, Master Lund, *W*hite Oaks; Numa Reymond, Numa Frenzer, Chas. Beljean, J. J. Dolan and family, Las Cruces; L. B. *W*alters, ranch; J. T. Eubank, J. C. DeLany, *W.* E. DeLany, Mr. Schutz, Stanton; Emil Fritz, Rio Felix; Mr. and Mrs. Lee *W*ells, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. L. Zimmerman, *M*iss Gertie Lea, *M*rs *M.* D. *M*inter, J. B. Trotter, Roswell; Aug. Rouiller, wife, son and servant, John Rouiller, Paraje; Fernando Herrera, Ruidoso; W. H. Lumbley and friend, ranch, were among the guests at the Stanton House during the past week.

As gay a crowd as ever took Lincoln by storm passed through Sunday from Roswell enroute to the head waters of the Ruidoso, where they will spend about two weeks fishing, hunting, eating, sleeping, drinking good water, breathing pure mountain air and otherwise enjoying themselves. The excursion is composed of the following named persons: Mr. and Mrs. John L. Zimmerman, Mr. and Mrs. Lee D. Wells, Miss Gertie Lea, Mrs. M. D. Minter, A. H. Whetstone and J. B. Trotter. They are provided with all the necessaries and conveniencies of camp life, such as eatables and drinkables, tents, bedding, chairs, musical instruments, fishing tackle, guns, books, cards, etc., and we anticipate for them a most pleasant sojourn, and one long to be remembered. Some of the ladies are keeping a diary of each day's events, which, no doubt, will be very interesting, and in the far distant future they may refer with pleasure to the happenings on their trip to the White Mountains. They will return through Lincoln and everything is fixed to have a big blow-out when they arrive.

$5.00 REWARD!

Will be paid by J. D. Lea, of this office, for his large alligator-leather valise and contents—clothing—which was lost off the mail hack between Kimbrell's and Lincoln about July 15th.

Several train loads of new goods at Rosenthal & Co's. Call and examine before buying from old shelf-worn stocks.

Notice of Receipt of Plat.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
LAS CRUCES N. M., July 5, 1890.

Notice is hereby given that the approved plat of township 17 s of range 14 east, has this day been received from the Surveyor-General and will be duly filed in this office on August 5, 1890, in accordance with instructions from the General Land Office, after which date filings will be received therefor. This township lies directly west of Weed, and contains the ranches of McDonald, Hancock, Fletcher, and others. SAMUEL P. MCCREA, Register.

Go to Rosenthal & Co's for your clothing. Largest and finest stock.

FORT STANTON FACTS.

FORT STANTON, N. M., July 28, '90.

Your correspondent is "red hot" at your not publishing last week's communication but we suppose it is the fault of the postoffice department. We warn the Stanton and Lincoln postmasters that if this occurs again Wannemaker shall hear of it.

The paymaster arrived on Tuesday and distributed the "stuff" as usual, on Wednesday. As a result everyone is feeling good. The Canteen is doing a rushing business.

Lieut. Brewster left for the railroad on Monday. He will be gone about six weeks.

Latest advices from San Antonio report E. E. L. Taylor afoot at that point. He is now looking for a job on the railroad; he wants to come back to Stanton, "it's ever thus."

Sgt. Kimball and wife and Miss Maggie Reese, sister of Mrs. Kimball, left for Missouri and Indiana on Thursday. They will spend four months visiting friends.

Frank Lesnet paid us a visit on Monday. We are always glad to see Frank, as he is one of the boys. Come again, Frank, and drink some of our good——"mountain water."

Andy Richardson is in from the ranch again on business for "the company." All right, Andy, we are "on to you" but as you are not a bad fellow we will not give you away this time.

Col. J. C. DeLany went down to "the ranche" on Monday to look after the alfala crop. They will be back on Thursday.

LAST WEEK'S COMMUNICATION.

The board of officers appointed to inspect and appraise the Post Trader's buildings, arrived here on Saturday week. The board consists of Capt. Bailey, 5th Infantry, Judge Advocate, department of Arizona, president; Capt. I. N. True, assistant quartermaster, Tucson, Arizona, member, and 1st Lieut. Reade; A. A. Q. M., Fort Thomas, Arizona, recorder. They spent all day Saturday measuring and inspecting buildings, which will be platted and photographed and forwarded to war department. The board expressed themselves well pleased with the condition of the buildings, the extent thereof and their natural adaptability for general use; the general impression seems to be that the board will award Mr. DeLany a good sum. We sincerely hope such will be the case and hope he will "strike it big."

Col. Smith, medical inspector of the Department, is here on a tour of inspection and "taking notes" of our magnificent climate and mountain scenery. We hope Col. Smith will hurry up that long promised ice machine, before the warm season is over. We can get along here very well without ice in winter, but these hot days, it's an actual necessity.

Mr. R. Harry Hills is at present filling the position vacated by Mr. E. E. Taylor at the Post Trader's. Mr. Hills will take warning by the mistake of his predecessor and "not monkey with the lulu" (alcohol.)

The happiest man in Fort Stanton is our efficient telegraph operator and assistant postmaster. Cause: A 9 pound girl safely arrived at his home on the 8th. We envy him his bliss.

Lieut. Brewster goes east on leave of absence about the 20th. He will bring Mrs. Brewster back with him on his return.

Dr. W. S. Block at last got his discharge, and went to the railroad on the 17th. We wish him many years of success in his new sphere.

Mr. E. E. L. Taylor goes east with Lieut. Brewster. Mr. Taylor has had enough of the wild and wooly west and says New York is good enough for him.

The Paymaster is expected to arrive here about the 20th and pay off on the 21st. As the Canteen has a big stock of beer on hand we will all have a big time.

The Roswell B. B. club seems to be suffering from a severe attack of enlargement of the cranium. If they have any "stuff" to put up we would be glad to hear from them, and meet them at Lincoln or Picacho, for any sum they may like to name. Come, Mr. Prager, don't talk too much.

Owing to a decision of a G. C. *M.* the writer has been suffering a little of late from over confinement and an abnormal quantity of enforced labor. Unfortunately we got on a "tare," got into a row with the "top soldier" and was ignominiously cast into "durance vile." We got "a blind" and "thirty days." So our literary efforts were crushed, but we are free once more and, like Cato, we think "that a day, an hour of virtuous liberty is worth a whole month in the swill."

AJAX.

For Sale.

A matched bay carriage team of hores, with Carriage and Harness. Also a saddle pony—all belonging to Captain Overton. Apply to J. J. PERSHING, Fort Stanton, N. M.

Rosenthal & Co. are away ahead of all competitors when it comes to a complete stock and bed rock prices.

For Sale Cheap.

One first-rate Racine Carriage; four springs; canopy top.

JOHN H. CANNING,
Fort Stanton, N. M.

When you come to Lincoln and want a good, substantial meal of victuals, or want to rest your weary bones in a clean, comfortable bed, go to the Stanton House.

CRUCES CLATTER.

LAS CRUCES, July 19, 1890.

On Monday afternoon about 2 o'clock, six county prisoners who were engaged in repairing the Mesilla road about a mile and a half from town, overpowered the guards and escaped. Of those who escaped four were Mexicans and two negroes, the latter being enlisted men from Ft. Selden, charged with slaughtering a calf, the property of the Detroit Cattle company.

It appears that there had been a well-laid plan on the part of the Mexicans to change boarding houses and, therefore, when, on Monday afternoon, a guard in a careless manner allowed himself to get into close proximity to one of his charges, the latter laid him prostrate upon the earth at one fell swipe with a large sized hoe, after which several willing hands relieved him of his deadly weapons; which done, one of the surprise party proceeded to perforate the frame-work of the second guard, after the most approved manner. One guard, Barela, a relative of the sheriff's, was, it is said, shot through the jaw, the ball coming out behind the ear. The man is alive and will recover.

A posse was immediately organized and search instituted. About four miles below town four men were tracked into the tall weeds, in a section of the old river-bed. A deputy sheriff opened a random fire on the weed-patch and pretty soon the two colored men walked out into the opening and surrendered.

LATER.—Two of the Mexicans were recaptured. The other two have thus far eluded their pursuers.

Mr. J. J. Dolan, ex receiver of the U. S. land office at this place, departed for Lincoln on Monday.

Something over a year ago Mr. Dolan, apparently unaided, stepped into a Federal office with the sang froid of a veteran in the business; but he had not had the thing many months before he was praying, like the Texan who captured the catamount, for somebody to help him let it "go".

Las Cruces has lost, and Lincoln regained, a good citizen.

Mr. Quinby Vance, Mr. Dolan's successor in office, like his predecessor, is an affable gentleman and has none of the smell of the menagerie about him.

The case of Thomas Long vs. the Bloom Cattle company will be heard before Judge McFie, in chambers, on Thursday. The complainant seeks to have defendant restrained from taking water from the Hondo river, within certain limits, alleging prior appropriation.

Mr. A. L. Christy, clerk of the 3rd judicial district court, was married on Wednesday evening to Miss Sophia French, of Las Cruces. Rev. Henry Forrester, rector of St. Luke's, was the officiating clergyman.

The groom is a well known young man and the bride a beautiful and accomplished young lady, prominent in society circles of Las Cruces.

Judge McFie and the Hon. Simon Newcomb have returned from Washington. To the representative of a local news reporter Mr. Newcomb pooh-poohed at the rumor of his seeking a judgeship in New Mexico, notwithstanding a red-hot republican sheet set the rumor afloat.

It has been suggested that Mr. Newcomb might preside with dignity on the bench of the proposed land court, and his abilities certainly fit him for the position.

DAN.

WHITE OAKS WHISPERS.

Whispered to us by the Interpreter, July 18.

U Ozanne is erecting a two story building, which will be used as a grist mill, operated by a new wind mill purchased at Bontavia, Ill. Mr. Ozanne intends to have mill all completed soon, when he will grind corn and oats to feed stock.

W. C. McDonald has been at the Carrizozo home ranch the greater part of the week, attending to the duties as manager.

The American mine at Nogal, we understand, has closed down for a time, and T. R. Ray, one of the lessees will go to Idaho soon.

The road over the mountain to Texas Park has been, this week, greatly improved.

Fitzpatrick, Bowman, Weisher and Church with Spikie, Ross, Jones, Talbot, and Kinraid, are making things lively in the Jicarillas.

J. B. Collier reports water and grass abundant in the Coyote country since the rains.

Little Leaders.

The South Homestake mill is making a clean-up, the second withing a few weeks. This looks encouraging and there will doubtless be a golden reward for the owners.

Wm. M. Lane, the new mail contractor from San Antonio to Lincoln, is pushing affairs on his line with commendable energy. Will is an excellent young man and deserves such success as he will doubtless reap.

The starting of the North Homestake mill is not an impossibility and that in near future. The owners and managers keep their business closely and nothing definitely can be learned, but more activity than chronic croakers like may confidently be looked for.

Messrs Patterson and Warner, lessees of the Parson's Mine at Parsons City, are prosecuting work with favorable results. We earnestly hope their reward will be commensurate with their deserts.

Mrs. M. M. Rudisille will leave for the east in a few days to visit friends and relatives and attend the National Encampment of the Women's Relief corps at Boston, Mass., Aug. 12th, of which body she is a member.

New Goods!
New Goods!
Now Goods!
Coming in every day at Rosenthal & Co's.

EDDY ECHOES.

Caught from the Argus, July 12.

Chas. H. Slaughter this week formally announces himself as a candidate for sheriff.

We have been told that A. Green, of Seven Rivers, will be a candidate for county treasurer.

Jim Kibbee is the father of another bouncing boy. The luck of that man is simply phenomenal.

Time table five months hence: To Pecos City, four hours; from Pecos City to El Paso, nine hours.

An accurate count has not been made, but it is safe to say that there are millions of fish in the great reservoir.

It is believed that the Mexican population of Eddy will always be very small. Very few Mexicans have taken up land.

Referring to the Pecos Valley railroad the Fort Worth *Gazette* says: "This road will be one of the quickest built in the state.

The popular John Kelley started on a trip to Colorado Springs last Tuesday. We are sorry to say that he may be absent two months.

We say it without fear of successful contradiction that if W. A. Hawkins would practice for ten or twelve years he would be able to play ball a little.

El Paso *Herald*: "From the Hon. C. B. Eddy, of the town of Eddy, and the general manager of the famous canals of the Pecos Valley, the *Herald* learns that the Pecos Valley railroad has about 20 miles of the road graded and five miles of steel laid. The material is arriving as rapidly as it can be used and the contractors, W. O. Bradbury & Co., will build at the rate of one mile per day and complete the road to Eddy by the first of November next. When twenty-five miles have been laid a station will be established, from which freight and passengers will be forwarded to Eddy. Mr. Eddy points with pardonable pride to the rapid growth of Eddy and the surrounding country.

Things that Eddy will "sure" have by this time next summer: 1st A railroad; 2nd, water works; 3rd, an ice factory; 4th constantly running water on each side of every street in town; 5th, a score or more of Bermuda grass lawns; 6th, sprinkled streets; 7th, a public hall; 8th. three churches. Cut this out and put it in a safe place. It will be mighty interesting next July when you are enjoying the national holiday.

A Lookout correspondent says: "Lookout is improving. The people are yet hopeful that the railroad will come through their town. A survey is now being made from Deleware to Eddy, via Lookout, to investigate the advisibility of the new route. Town lots are in demand. Judge Peitz sold fifteen last Friday and Saturday to various parties for fair prices. The late rains started the grass around Lookout and on Black River generally, and cattle are looking well."

On the 18th of July a drummer from Illinois left Pecos with a driver in a buggy for Eddy. Thirty miles this side of Pecos, while preparing to rest for dinner, he got out of the buggy and reached for his shotgun, with the intention of setting it down against the buggy. While doing so one barrel went off and sent the contents into his side, killing him instantly.

Pecos City *News*: "The graders on the Pecos Valley railroad are about five miles in advance of the tracklayers, but S. P. Selden says that after the 10th inst. the graders will have to hump themselves if they don't overtake them.

Dr. James A. Tomlinson this week announces himself for probate judge.

Judge Tomlinson's first case was for assault and battery. Two men at the dam threshed a man who was raising a disturbance. He filed a complaint. They plead guilty and were fined five dollars and costs.

The *Argus* has more announcements than any paper in Lincoln or Chaves counties. The candidates in those counties seem to be afraid to let the people know that they are on the track.

The Hotel Hagerman may perhaps be opened next Monday. All the furniture is between here and Pecos City.

NOGAL NOISE.

Made by the Liberty Banner, July 17.

The Carrizozo company will begin work at once on Lost River, so we are informed.

The V V outfit began work on Cedar Creek July 20. Will Henley has been employed to work for the company.

The U. S. flag now floats over Nogal's public school building. The building, like the flag, is not a product of New Mexico's public school system. They are both monuments of Nogal enterprise and patriotism.

The Parsons' mill is running night and day under the new management and the prospects are good.

Messrs. Geo. Hust, John Pinkley and Wm. Coates, from Stone county, Mo., came in last week, accompanied by their families, and expect to locate. They are farmers and good citizens.

The county Alliance met at Eagle Creek, July 10. They decided to prepare questions to be submitted to our candidates for the Territorial legislature and thus ascertain who of them favor legislation demanded by the Alliance. They appointed a legislative committee to report at a meeting to be held next Saturday week, at which time the endorsing of candidates for county offices will also be considered. The legislative committee will meet at Nogal on Saturday, July 26, at which time a stock holder's meeting will also be held.

Estrayed.

From my ranch, on Ruidoso, July 3, one brown mare, 3 years old, star in forehead, branded H on right hip. Any information leading to recovery will be suitably rewarded.

J. N. COX.

ROSWELL RACKET.

Raised by the Register, July 17.

If we only had ice.

D. R. Henderson, the jeweler, is in Eddy doctoring the sick watches.

Several wagon loads of furniture and fixtures for the new bank arrived Tuesday.

Judge E. T. Stone and wife, returned home Wednesday from their trip to the railroad.

Geo. T. Ovard and family arrived in Roswell yesterday, after a months' visit to Utah. Mr. Ovard reports a pleasant trip.

Scott Jordan has purchased J. F. Harvey's interest in the saloon business, and the firm is now known as Jordan & Blackwood.

Mr. Mark Howell and family have moved in town from their farm and are now living in the residence lately erected by Charley Hamilton.

There is blood on the face of the moon, and Mr. Whiteman is here to tell about it. It appears that upon reaching Mr. Cline's, where he went to take possession, according to the agreement entered into between him and Cline a few days ago, Mrs. Cline refused to sign the deed, and the deal is off and Mr. Whiteman is mad because he has been at great "expenses" in the matter.

L. M. Long has just returned from Eddy, and brought with him (on a visit to his mother), the charming Eddy school mistress, Miss Edith Ohl. Miss Ohl is charming and petite.

Men and Teams Wanted for the Pecos Valley Railroad.

Denver, June 11, 1890.

Publisher Independent, Lincoln, New Mexico.

Having taken the contract to construct the R. R. from Pecos to Eddy, we have an abundance of work for all the men and teams that can apply at once.

They can get work by contract, at hauling ties, timber, supplies, and at grading, grubbing, &c., and by the day with the sub contractors. Grading and construction outfits are already arriving there, and actual work commenced to-day. Our headquarters are at Pecos.

W. C. BRADBURY & Co.

For cleanliness, comfort and first-class fare, go to Whelan & Co's. Hotel.

Estray Notice.

Taken up by the undersigned, a resident of Lincoln county, New Mexico, and posted before T. B. McCourt, J. P., precinct No. 8, Lincoln Co., New Mexico, according to law, one bay mare, five years old, branded OMC (connected) on the right hip, untamed, and one black colt, 10 months old, branded OMC (connected) on right hip.

D. B. HUXTOWER,
White Oaks, N. M.

May 27, 1890.

New Goods!
New Goods!
New Goods!
Coming in every day at Rosenthal & Co's.

Notice of Dissolution.

To all whom it may concern:

The co-partnership heretofore existing between Brandon Kirby and James Edward Cree, under the firm name and style of Kirby & Cree, is hereby dissolved, by mutual consent, the said Brandon Kirby retiring from the said firm.

From and after this date the business heretofore carried on by the said firm of Kirby & Cree will be conducted solely by James Edward Cree, the remaining partner All debts owing by the said firm of Kirby & Cree are hereby assumed by the said James Edward Cree, and will be paid upon application to him, when due.

All persons indebted to the said firm of Kirby & Cree will make payment to James Edward Cree, who is hereby appointed to wind up the affairs of said firm of Kirby & Cree.

BRANDON KIRBY.
JAMES EDWARD CREE.

Dated at Angus V V Ranch, Fort Stanton, N. M., this fifteenth day of July, 1890.

Notice of Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT ROSWELL, N. M.
July 11, 1890.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at Roswell, N. M., on Thursday, Sept. 4, 1890, viz:

Damian Gutierres,

Hd. application No. 69 (L. C. S.) for the ne ¼ sw ¼, & lots 3 & 4, Sec. 31, Tp. 10 south, Range 17 east.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of, said land, viz: Juan Lucero, Pietro Trujillo, Francisco Gutierres, Jose Manuel Gutierres, all of Lincoln, N. M.

Republication of notice by order of Commissioners letter "C" dated May 19, 1890.

WINFIELD S. COBEAN, Register

Good News for Settlers.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8, 1890

Register and Receiver,
Roswell, New Mexico.

GENTLEMEN:—I am in receipt of the Register's letter of June 18, 1890, in which he states that there are a number of parties in your district who made settlement from five to ten years ago on lands in unsurveyed townships, and have lived upon and improved the same to the present time, that the plats for said townships will probably be filed in your office during the present summer, and you may ask, whether or not, these settlers will be allowed to make homestead entries for the land in question, and to count the time they have lived upon their lands, in proving up their respective claims.

In reply I have to inform you that the parties mentioned will be allowed to make homestead entries for the lands they have respectively resided upon, and improved and cultivated upon payment of the proper fee and commissions, provided the applications to make said entries are tendered to you within three months from the filing of the plats, or before the intervention of a valid adverse claim, covering the lands aforesaid, in your office, and that "the period of continuous residence and cultivation begins to run at the date of actual settlement."

Your attention is invited to instructions on page 15 of circular of January 1, 1889, and to the third section of the act of May 14, 1880, (21 Stat. 140,) on page 97 of said circular.

Very Respectfully,
LEWIS A. GROFF,
Commissioner.

D. J. M. A. JEWETT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
WHITE OAKS, NEW MEXICO.

Wm. Watson. Robert E. Lund.
WATSON & LUND,
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW.
WHITE OAKS, N. M

J. J. COCKRELL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO.
Will practice in Lincoln and adjoining counties.

R. L. Young. A. B. Fall.
FALL & YOUNG,
LAWYERS,
LAS CRUCES, - - N. M.
Will attend District Court at Lincoln regularly.

PINITO PINO,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO.
Will practice in all the courts of the territory and the United States Land Office.

W. S. RYAN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO.

GEORGE B. BARBER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
WHITE OAKS, NEW MEXICO.
Will practice in all the courts of the territory and the United States Land Office.

JOHN Y. HEWITT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
WHITE OAKS, LINCOLN CO., N. M.

A. H. WHETSTONE,
SURVEYOR AND LAND AGENT,
ROSWELL, LINCOLN CO., N. M.
Complete abstract of all lands on the Pecos.

W. C. McDONALD,
DEPUTY U. S
MINERAL SURVEYOR AND
NOTARY PUBLIC.
WHITE OAKS, NEW MEXICO.

FRED H. PEITZ,
U. S. Deputy Mineral and Land Surveyor,
Land Attorney and Real Estate Agent,
Notary Public. Surveyor of the Hagerman Irrigation and Land Co. Complete abstract of all lands in Eddy county. Local Agent for Texas and Pacific Railroad Company. Taxes paid for non-residents. Lands surveyed and subdivided. Reports made as to value, quality, and occupancy of lands. Titles adjusted.
P. O.: LOOKOUT, EDDY COUNTY, N. M.

R. MICHAELIS & CO.,
LINCOLN, N. M.,
Dealers in General Merchandise
The Only House in Lincoln Co. that is Selling
Strictly for CASH!
Our Motto is:
"Small Profits and Quick Returns.

he was, saw again the shadow of the graceful form and heard the silvery, happy laugh, and then it was he sent for Rayner. It was near midnight when he led his forces to the attack. A light was now burning in the second story, which he thought must be Sam's; but the lights had been turned low in the parlor and the occupants had disappeared from sight and hearing. By inquiry he had ascertained that Hayne's bedroom was just back of the parlor.

A man was stationed at the back door, others at the sides, with orders to arrest any one who attempted to escape; then softly he stepped to the front door, telling Rayner to follow him, and the corporal of the guard to follow both. To his surprise, the door was unlocked, and a light was burning in the hall. Never knocking, he stepped in, marched through the hall into the parlor, which was empty, and, signaling "Come on" to his followers, crossed the parlor and seized the knob of the bedroom door. It was locked. Rayner, looking white and worried, stood just behind him, and the corporal but a step farther back. Before Buxton could knock and demand admission, which was his intention, quick footsteps came flying down the stairs from the second story, and the trio wheeled about in surprise to find Mr. Hayne, dressed in his fatigue uniform, standing at the threshold and staring at them with mingled astonishment, incredulity and indignation. A sudden light seemed to dawn upon him as he glanced from one to the other. With a leap like a cat he threw himself upon Buxton, hurled him back, and stood at the closed door confronting them with blazing eyes and clinching fists.

"Open that door, sir!" cried Buxton. "You have a woman hidden there. Open, or stand aside."

"You hounds! I'll kill the first man who dares enter!" was the furious answer; and Hayne had snatched from the wall his long infantry sword and flashed the blade in the lamplight. Rayner made a step forward, half irresolute. Hayne leaped at him like a tiger. "Fire! Quick!" shouted Buxton, in wild excitement. Bang! went the carbine, and the bullet crashed through the plaster overhead, and, seeing the gleaming steel at his superior's throat, the corporal had sent the heavy butt crashing upon the lieutenant's skull only just in time; there would have been murder in another second. The next instant he was standing on his own head in the corner, seeing a multitude of twinkling, whirling stars, from the midst of which Capt. Rayner was reeling backward over a chair and a number of soldiers were rushing upon a powerful picture of furious manhood—a stranger in shirt sleeves, who had leaped from the bedroom.

Told as it was—as it had to be—all over the department, there seemed to be but one thing to say, and that referred to Buxton: "Well! isn't he a phenomenal ass?"

A Mighty Beast.

Few, even among the most thoughtful of the genus homo, ever stop to consider the immense size of the great Greenland or Bright whale (Balena mysticetus, L.) Nillson says that it will weigh over 100 tons. Just think of it, 220,000 pounds! At that rate the gigantic creature would outweigh 83 of the largest elephants or a half a thousand grizzly bears. Sliced in chunks of 1,000 pounds each, his carcass would load a freight train of 11 cars to its fullest capacity. The whalebone in such a whale would weigh as much as three of the largest Norman horses, and his oil would fill 150 kerosene barrels.—St. Louis Republic.

Money Made in Barrels.

The women inventors of Pennsylvania are many, and there is one bright woman who has a barrel hooping machine which brings her in $20,000 a year. This is Mary E. Beaseley, the original inventor of the machine and the patentee of numerous improvements upon it. One of the machines, it is said, can put iron hoops on 1,200 barrels in a single day. It is a valuable patent and is largely used by the trade.—Cor. New York World.

Decrepit Horses in London.

There is a home of rest for horses in London, regularly incorporated, and with a lord for its president. It is said to have been very successful in a small way, and now is trying to get $25,000 endowment with which to buy and maintain a farm for the benefit of aged and decrepit horses.—Toronto Globe.

E. G. MURPHEY & CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

DRUGS, CHEMICALS, PERFUMERY and TOILET GOODS.

Prescriptions Carefully Compounded.

We pay special attention to mail orders, and guarantee satisfaction to all customers.

Las Vegas, New Mexico.

A. CORTESY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

SOCORRO, N. M.

CARIZO HOTEL.

White Oaks, New Mexico.

WM. GALLAGHER, Proprietor.

CHARGES REASONABLE.

This hotel is a new brick structure and is furnished throughout with new furniture. Sleeping rooms are well supplied with clean and comfortable beds, and provided with light and ventilation. Table supplied with the best the market affords. Every care taken of, and attention paid to wants of transient guests.

MARTIN BROTHERS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

LIQUORS, WINES AND CIGARS,

Las Vegas, New Mexico.

We carry the largest and choicest stock of such goods to be found in the territory and offer the same at

REASONABLE PRICES.

We will be pleased to answer mail orders and quote prices.

OTHERS MAY PREACH

—ABOUT—

Low Prices and Square Dealing

—BUT—

WE PRACTICE

A fair article of Gun Powder Tea at 50c a pound.

A 3-pound can of Tomatoes 20c.

Boston Baked Beans 25c a can.

Heating Stoves at greatly reduced prices.

YONUG & TALIAFERRO

White Oaks, N. M.

Call on us and satisfy yourself.

ECLIPSE WINDMILLS

POWER AND HAND STEAM PUMPS,

RANCH MACHINERY,

Iron, Pipe, Hose and Belting.

Solon E. Rose & Bro.

Albuquerque, New Mexico.

FRIEDRICH & NEEDHAM,

—DEALERS IN—

CHOICE LIQUORS, CIGARS

Lincoln, New Mexico.

MARLIN REPEATING RIFLES

MODEL '81 REPEATERS, MODEL '89 REPEATERS.

THE LATEST. MODEL 1889. MARLIN SAFETY REPEATING RIFLE using the 32, 38, and 44 Winchester cartridges, having a SOLID TOP RECEIVER, Excluding all dirt or moisture from the lock. LOADING and EJECTING from the side, away from the face of the shooter. Weighing but 6¾ POUNDS, and a model of symmetry and beauty. Shoots with greater ACCURACY than any other. Don't buy until you see the MARLIN SAFETY MODEL, 1889.

MODEL '81 REPEATERS 40-60 and 45-70 calibres. LOW TRAJECTORY STRONG SHOOTING.

THE BALLARD still remains the best shooting rifle in the world.

MARLIN'S DOUBLE ACTION AUTOMATIC EJECTING REVOLVER in workmanship, finish and accuracy of shooting; second to none.

WRITE US for information. All inquiries answered promptly.

ASK YOUR DEALER to show you our rifles. For a complete description of the best Repeating Rifles in the world, write for Illustrated Catalogue D, to the

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LYMAN'S PAT. RIFLE SIGHTS

Are Unequalled both for Hunting and Target Shooting.

Send for Catalogue A, showing Sights and Rifles of latest design. ADDRESS,

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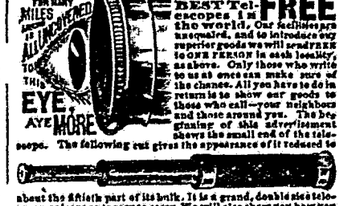

about the fifth part of its bulk. It is a grand, double sized telescope, as large as is easy to carry. We will also show you how you can make from $3 to $10 a day at least, from the start, without experience. Better write at once. We pay all express charges. Address, H. HALLETT & CO., Box 980, PORTLAND, MAINE.

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Store-keepers of America, we appeal to your intelligent eye and comprehensive judgment as careful buyers, to try us with one sample order for READY-MADE CLOTHING. We would like to have you compare our goods with any you have in your store from other manufacturers. If the reader is not a merchant, please ask your dealer for garments bearing this well-known label:

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We are willing to ship our Clothing on approval, and pay return charges on any goods you do not like after they are received. If our goods are not better made, better trimmed, better fitting, and from fifteen to forty per cent. cheaper than any other firm in America will sell for, we will return your money. We turn our stock eight times every year, and are satisfied with 5% profit.

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AGENTS WANTED in every county. We can show proof that agents are making from $75 to $150 per month. Farmers make $200 to $500 during the winter. Ladies have great success selling this Washer. Retail price, only $5. Sample to those desiring an agency $2. Also the Celebrated KEYSTONE WRINGERS at manufacturers' lowest prices. We invite the strictest investigation. Send your address on a postal card for further particulars.

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A PERFECT CAR FOR FEEDING, RESTING AND WATERING LIVE STOCK WHILE IN TRANSIT.

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HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A FULL LINE OF

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It is published at the county seat of the largest county in the world, and is the only paper published at said county seat.

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It is the official paper of the county, and to keep posted in everything pertaining to county matters you must take it.

3 Because

It is the largest paper in the county, and publishes more genuine *fresh* reading matter than any other two papers in the county combined.

4 Because

It may save you many dollars by keeping you posted on all legal and land advertisements.

5 Because

It is the only paper in which will be published all the county estray notices required by law to be published in a paper at the county seat.

6 Because

It is neatly printed and you therefore are not obliged to put on a pair of specs to read part of it and guess at the rest.

7 Because

It is a wide-awake, progressive, independent county newspaper, and will be worth many times its price every year you take it.

8 Because

If you live in Lincoln county, or own property in the county, or have any interests in the county, it is necessary for you to take a good local paper, published at the county seat. Especially if that paper is a live, wide-awake, interesting sheet, all for $2 a year.

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Eggs $3.00 per setting of 13 eggs.

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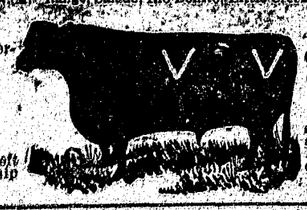
Postoffice, Fort Stanton, N. M. Range, Salado, Rio Bonito, Little Creek, Eagle Creek, Rio Ruidoso.



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Address, J. C. Lea, Roswell, N. M.

Brand on left side, but sometimes on right side. Ear marks sometimes reversed. E side, and also some on side and hip. W side, JB on hip or loin, D L A. Cross on side or hip. Cattle branded with various other ear marks and old brands. Horses branded sometimes without A on hip.

WILLIAM ROBERT.

Postoffice, Roswell, N. M.

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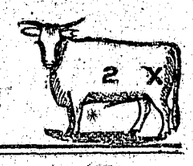
Postoffice, Fort Sumner, N. M. Range, east side of Pecos river, thirty-five miles below Fort Sumner.



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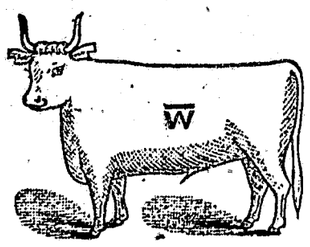
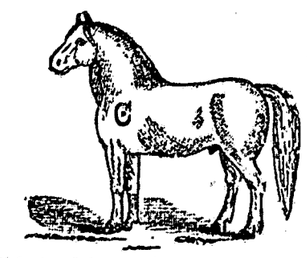
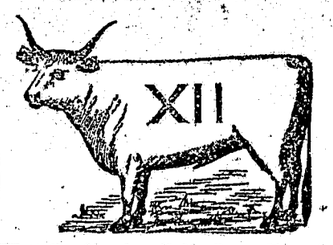




Mules branded same as horses.

GEORGE G. GANS.



Postoffice, Moscalero, N. M. Range, Pleasant Valley, nine miles north of Upper Penasco. Also cattle branded G on both sides. Horses branded the same on the left shoulder.

L. W. NEATHERLIN.

Postoffice, Lower Penasco. Range, ten miles south of Lower Penasco. Cattle branded LIN on left side. Ear mark, crop and underbit in both ears. Horse brand same as cow.

C. H. SLAUGHTER.

Postoffice, Lookout, N. M. Range, head of Black river. Brand, HIL on left side.

EDDY-BISSEL CATTLE CO.

Postoffice, Seven Rivers, N. M. Range, on the Pecos, near Seven Rivers. Horse brand W on left shoulder. Eddy Brothers, Managers.

SARAH S. KEEN.

Postoffice, Upper Penasco, N. M. Range, Upper Penasco.

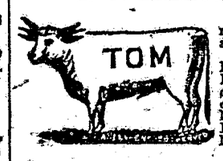
SUTHERLAND & FARRELL

Postoffice, Lincoln, N. M. Range, Rio Hondo. Horses branded same as cows on left thigh.

JOSE MONTANO.

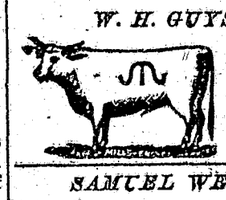
Postoffice, Lincoln, N. M. Horses branded same as cows.

T. C. TILLOTSON.



Postoffice and range, Lower Penasco, N. M. Brand, TOM on left side and T on left shoulder. O on left side and M on left hip; swallowfork each ear. Horse brand, T on left shoulder.

W. H. GUYSE,



Postoffice, Lincoln, N. M. Range, Agua Azul. Horse brand on left shoulder or thigh.

SAMUEL WELLS.

Postoffice, White Oaks, N. M. Horse brand X

FLORENCIO GONZALES.

Postoffice, Lincoln, N. M.

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