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Daily Alta California, Volume 12, Number 3948, 4 December 1860 — CITY ITEMS. [ARTICLE]

CITY ITEMS.

FIREMEN'S ELECTION—DAVID SCANNELL ELECTED CHIEF ENGINEER.—The triennial election for Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, took place yesterday, and resulted in the choice of David Scannell, Foreman of Broderick Engine Company, No. 1, who received a majority of 101 votes over both opponents; and a plurality of 107 over Cushing. The vote stood as follows: Total vote cast, 873. Scannell, 487; Cushing, 380; Capprise, 6. For Third Assistant Engineer the vote stood Corson 467; Swift, 366; Bloomer, 38. Corson's plurality over Swift, 101.

The Chief Engineer elect was formerly Sheriff of San Francisco, and ranks as one of the most efficient firemen in the Department. The official announcement of the vote was received, last evening, with loud hurrahs by the successful party, the ringing of engine bells, and other demonstrations of satisfaction. Bonfires were lighted in front of several of the houses, around which the victors congregated and kept up the jollification until a late hour. Brodericks, No. 1, and Knickerbockers, No. 5, particularly distinguished themselves in this way, and at one time had piles of boxes twelve feet high, in a roaring blaze, throwing a lurid glare upon the adjacent houses, and lighting up the street, both ways, for two or three blocks. The boys had a merry time of it. The defeated party took their bad fortune quite stoically, and acted as good natured spectators of the jollification, while the lucky ones bore their success with becoming decorum. We heard of no ill feeling of any kind, though the entire department had been wrought up to an unusual pitch of excitement for the last three days.

RICH ORE FROM ESMERALDA.—Mr. F. J. Hughes, who has recently arrived from the silver regions on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada, has some of the most beautiful specimens of ore yet exhibited in this city. Good judges believe that the Esmeralda District, whence they were obtained, will totally eclipse anything yet found at Washoe. These specimens are from the "Great Republic" lead—the richest at Esmeralda; and, having been assayed carefully by Dr. John A. Veatch, that

chemist certifies that the ore contains $2,333 in silver, and $702 in gold; total, $3,035 per ton. The specimens were knocked off from the top of the ledge, which outcrops in a number of places. The most celebrated mines in Bolivia, Mexico, or Peru, which have mainly supplied the world with silver for the last two centuries, prospected no better than this, when originally discovered. Who can compute the limitless wealth that will emanate from our silver mines during the next three years?

THE KNIGHTS' HALL.—The beautiful new hall of Golden Gate Camp, Independent Order of Knighthood, which sustained such serious damage by the recent gas explosion, is undergoing thorough repair, and will be ready again for use in course of a week or ten days. The injury to the costly paraphernalia and furniture involved quite a heavy pecuniary loss to the Order, but, we understand, means are provided to render the hall as attractive and comfortable as ever. The initiatory ceremonies fixed for this evening are postponed till further notice.

EUREKA BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—At the annual election of the Eureka Benevolent Society, held on Sunday, December 2d, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: August Helbing, President; Benjamin Schloss, Vice President; Julius Beebr, Recording Secretary; L. B. Wertheimer, Cashier; M. Mayblum, Max Frankenthal, Leonard Heynerman, Martin Meyer and Ab. Wolf, Trustees.

ASSUMING THE DUTIES OF THEIR OFFICES.—E. A. Washburn, Tax Collector elect, assumed the duties of his office yesterday, in place of Jonathan Hunt, and Geo. T. Boben, the Street Superintendency, in place of Geo. H. Hossefross. Mr. Hollub, the Public Administrator, and H. M. Hale, the Auditor, have also commenced the duties of their positions.

ANOTHER PROPOSED THEATRE.—Negotiations are now on foot for the erection of a splendid new theatre on the southeast corner of Montgomery and Bush streets, on the site of the ruins caused by the burning of Musical Hall, some months ago. The plans are not yet drawn, but will be soon. The rumor as to a hotel, is incorrect.

SENT OVER.—The Petaluma boat yesterday had among her passengers to San Quentin, George Coffelt, sentenced in Tuolumne County to ten years imprisonment, for murder in the second degree; and Ramon Estrada to two years, for grand larceny in Los Angeles County.

BRICKLAYING EXTRAORDINARY.—A wager of $700 has been made by a master bricklayer of this

city, that he will lay one thousand brick on an eight-inch wall, and set his own line, in an hour. The money, it is said, will be put up to-day.

LETTERS OVERLAND.—The Overland Mail of yesterday carried away 4,153 letters.

INQUEST ON THE BODY OF CAROLINE F. PARK.—Coroner McNulty held an inquest last evening on the mulatto girl who was so brutally murdered on Saturday evening, by the negro Clarkson, in the kitchen of Mr. F. A. Woodworth. The witnesses examined were Mr. Woodworth, who testified to the facts as published in the *Alta* on Sunday morning; the two negroes, Oliver Cromwell and James Green, who were present when the murder occurred; and special officer Hoswill, who arrested Clarkson. The testimony only increases the aggravated and horrible nature of the murder. The negro had been a waiter or cook on board the steamer in which the girl and her aunt came to California, two years since. She was then but fifteen years of age—an octoroon, and remarkably handsome. Clarkson saw her, and induced her, after several interviews, to promise to marry him. The girl regretted the engagement after her arrival, having ascertained the dangerous and violent character of the man. Matters went on in this way until a few months ago, when the girl, with the advice of her aunt and friends, determined not to marry him; but she lacked the moral courage to tell him so. Her aversion, however, was so apparent that he noticed it, and seeing that there was no hope for him, he resolved that no one else should have her, and, buying a razor for this special purpose, he committed the murder as already narrated. He suddenly drew up to her while seated at the table, and putting his arm strongly around her neck, cut her throat from each ear down to the windpipe—almost, indeed, severing the head from the body. The walls were covered with blood, and the spectacle the most awful imaginable.

The jury on the inquest returned a verdict in accordance with the facts already published. The girl was a native of Philadelphia, and aged seventeen years.

The funeral took place yesterday, from the house of a friend on Union street. Thirty-nine carriages, containing the friends and relatives of the deceased, followed the body to the grave.

In the Police Court yesterday, the prisoner, through his counsel, waived an examination, and was sent to the Court of Sessions to await his trial for murder.

FIRE IN PETER JOB'S SALOON.—A little after

midnight, last night, a fire was discovered in the rear part of Job's restaurant, next door to Maguire's Opera House, and the Hail bell gave the alarm to the Department. The front room was so densely filled with smoke that no person could pass through it, and the firemen were obliged to take their hose up stairs and through the building to the roof of the burning portion. Company No. 1 was first, quickly followed by No. 2, and finally the whole force of the Fire Department seemed to be throwing water in or on the building. The first streams were directed through the sky-lights, and enough water forced in to flood the whole premises, but still the smoke continued to ascend for nearly half an hour—though at no time did it culminate in flames. We could not ascertain the extent of the damage when quitting the scene, but should judge that the whole appointments of the restaurant were destroyed. The firemen seemed to linger at the work as though it were a good opportunity to give vent to the enthusiasm created during the day at the election for Engineers.