The Siege of Port Arthur.

W. Richmond Smith Gives a Graphic Description of a Japanese Attack on the Fortress.

ines in a system of trenches in front the level ground in the first branch of the Shuishi Valley, and the range of hills directly in front of the advance artillery practically stopped firing. dred and seventy-four metre hill. The distance between the trenches and the advance forts of the Russians upon the foothills of the permanent fort ranges was a little less than a mile and a half. The Japanese artillery was splendidly placed in masked positions among the hills of the Feng-hoan-shan range in the centre, and behind the smaller hills on the east and west flanks. In the passes among the hills the supporting infantry was massed, and upon the northern slopes of the hills were huge camps of infantry reserves. It is difficult to imagine a more ideal position for an investing army. From the highest peak in the centre of the Japanese position it was astonishing how hard it was to locate the artillery, and the casual observer would never for a moment have supposed that the hills over which he was looking at Port Arthur held concealed so large an army.

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day had the work of placing the varfous batteries of heavy guns which formed the siege park been completed. We were told that some hundred guns which the Japanese artillery could then bring to bear upon the enemy's position. A desultory artillery fire was kept up by the Japanese batteries all morning, evidently for the purpose of finding ranges. The Russian guns replied only occasionally. Shortly before oon the infantry in the Shuishi Valley began to advance from their trench lines, and were met with a heavy rifle ire from the enemy, who had an advance firing line behind the railway embankment in the centre of the second branch of the Shuishi Valley and across the first branch of the same valley a little to the south of the first Chinese village. On the east and west flanks the advance trenches were very close together, among the hills on the west and in front of Takushan on the east. The object of the advance was. therefore, evidently to push closer the advance lines in the Shuishi Valleys. sian forts either could not or did not want to silence, the infantry succeeded in driving the enemy from his advance position behind the railway embankment and well up the first branch of the Shuishi Valley to a point close to the redoubt in front of the most advanced of the Uhrlung forts. It became evident during the early evening that it was the intention of the advancing infantry to make an attempt to capture the redoubt. Just before dark an advance was made under cover of a heavy shrapnel fire. Then followed a charge in which several companies of infantry managed to reach the redoubt in parties of tens and twenties. They were driven out after a bitter attempt to establish a footing inside. Later there was another assault which was successful, though subse quent events showed that it was only a precarious foothold that had been gained inside the redoubt. At three o'clock the following afternoon the company which held the work were forced to retire with a heavy loss.

THE BOMBARDMENT BEGINS. Before daylight on the morning of the twentieth the Japanese artillery began a fierce bombardment of the east fort-ridge to cover the advance of their infantry from the railway empankment in the centre of the Shuishi Valley against the Russian trench-line along the foot of the advance Panlung fort hills. There was also an advance against the Russian trench-line in the first branch of the Shuishi Valley little north of the village of Shuishi. Though battery after battery of Japanese guns were unmasked the infantry made little progress, owing to the hail of rifle fire they were subjected to from the trenches. The Russian orts also seemed to wake up. Batteries of field guns located among the ort hills smothered the Japanese adance with a storm of shrapnel, while the larger fortress artillery kept up a continual bombardment of the Fenghoang-shan foothills, where the Jap anese siege guns were supposed to be ocated. This fire had little effect, for every battery was cleverly placed, and the Russians were unable to locate them. During the afternoon the infantry advance was discontinued, but the bombardment between the forts and and returned to headquarters, arriving there about ten o'clock in the evening.

A WAR PICTURE AT NIGHT. We were just about turning in for sian position, and that if we wished to see it we would have to start at once. Chinese Pekin carts were procured, ride over fearful roads, but we finally were firing hundreds of illuminating the Russians from the wall around the compositions startight shells over the crest of the hill, out of the fort and

w. Richmond Smith in a letter to Japanese infantry trenches out in the the Toronto News, written from the valley, while five or six electric searchneadquarters of the Japanese army be- lights were searching with their for Port Arthur, after giving a pen powerful rays among the foothills on deture of General Nogi, goes on to the north side of the valley, where the Japanese batteries were located. The When we arrived on the scene on the night was more than usually dark. morning of Aug. 19, the Japanese in- The bursting of the starlight shells and fantry had established its advance the continual play of the searchlight, together with the booming of artillery, of the Feng-hoang-shan foothills. On and the rattle of musketry far out in the left flank the advance trenches ex- the valley in the midst of an inky tended between Takushan and the darkness, broken only now and then eastern fortridge to the seacoast in by the bursting of starlight shells and front of the most easterly foothill. On the flashing of searchlights, combined the right flank the trenches ran over to make a wonderful picture. In less than half an hour the infantry fire ceased, and shortly after daylight the

The promised assault did not take place for some reason or other.

SOME ASSAULTS WHICH FAILED The following day there was a terrific bombardment from all along the whole line of the Japanese position, which was only occasionally answered from the Russian forts. It soon became evident that the general assault which had been planned to take place the previous evening, was about to be made. Shortly before noon it came in three columns. On the left flank, with lines extending from the seashore around the end of the east fortridge and part way up the second branch of the Shuishi valley, was the left divi-In the centre was a division, kepeing touch on its left flank with the left division, its line extending along the front of the advanced Panlung forthills and into the first branch of the Shuishi valley, On the left along the line. Little could be seen on the left flank and centre, for the infantry closed in upon the Russian trenches in the second branch of the was set on fire by a high explosive attack. The attempt was uncuccessshell and burned fiercely for several ful, and in half an hour all was quiet hours. Evening saw the Japanese in- again. fantry occupying the whole of the Russian trench line in front of the advanced Panlung forts. The same night, under cover of darkness, the centre division made an assault upon the east Panlung advanced fort. The fighting lasted for more than an hour, but finally the Japanese were repulsed

light shells, the flashing of searchlights, the roar of artillery, and the rattle of musketry, was weird and wonderful in the extreme. At the first peep of dawn the Japanese artillery concentrated its fire upon the two Panlung forts. Shortly before eleven o'clock a perfect storm of shrapnel was poured into the most easterly of the advanced forts and under cover of this fire a company of infantry emerged from a donga at the foot of the forthill, and in tens and twenties charged up the slope towards a low stone wall which surounded the crest of the foothill. At its right corner this wall had been battered down with shell fire, and to this point the rush was made. "THEIR'S-BUT TO DO AND DIE." Out of the first batch of twenty men who charged up the glacis not more than three or four reached a small

with considerable loss. The scene

during the night, with bursting star-

patch of dead ground immediately below the wall. This, however, did not seem to daunt the others, for there was charge after charge of small parties up the bullet swept path, which soon was literally strewn with bodies of dead and wounded men. The Russian infantry behind the wall around the crest of the hill and in the fort itself poured a murderous fire into the assaulters who began to retire first in twos and threes and then in dozens. An officer, regardless of danger, stood full up or the skyline, called out some order and planted the regimental flag upon the battered wall. The effect was instantaneous. The retreating soldiers stopped in their tracks, hesitated for a moment under the awful fire, and then charged back up the hill, dozens of them falling in their re-assent up the deathway. A few minutes later a stream of men were pouring up the glacis. Twice the assaulters were drivthe heavier Japanese guns was kept until dark, when we left our observation post on top of Feng-hoang-shan the Russian rifles and machine guns poured a deadly hail into their advancing ranks. A lull in the firing gave the opportunity and the intrepid assaulters jumped the broken wall and charged the enemy at that point with a night's rest when one of the official the bayonet, forcing many of them up interpreters from the staff came to us the glacis and over the ramparts of and said that a general assault was the fort. For six hours the assaulters, to be made that night upon the Rus- augmented from time to time by quick rushes of more men up the deathway from the donga, held their foothold despite the fact that the entire Rusand in company with the interpreter sian fire from both the trenches and the we started out in the darkness for forts was concentrated upon them. It Feng-hoang-shan. It was an awful was a little after five o'clock in the evening when another body of infanarrived at our destination after many try worked through a deep donga mishaps. By this time it was near the which separated the West Panlung for grim grey of dawn. The stillness of from the Urhlung fort, next to the west, the night was broken by the booming and advanced up the glacis towards of big guns shortly before we reached the crest of the second hill. This our observation hill. This was soon caused a slight diversion of fire from followed by the rattle of musketry. It the assaulters of the first fort, which was evident that something was on in was immediately taken advantage of. the Shuishi Valley, for the Russians With a charge the assaulters drove

WELL IN THE MORNING.

A MOST WONDERFUL CHANGE IN

SMITHS BUCHU LITHIA PILLS A POSTRIVE CURE FOR RHELINATISM MIDALL FORMS OF KIDNEY AND BLADDER ILLS. AT REL PLANTE LES CENTES A COSTE AT THE PROPLES PRICE

the fort hill to a Chinese wall, which extends around the whole front of the east fort-ridge. From the Chinese the higher fort-hills despite the desperate attempts of the Russians to force them back. About seven o'clock in the evening the infantry upon the slopes of the second advance Panlung fort managed to push their lines to flank was another division, with its the crest of the hill, when the Rusline resting upon the seashore close to sians behind the wall around the crest Louise Bay and extending over the of the fort-hill retired. The Japanese range of western hills in front of Two- were, however, unable to occupy the Hundred-and-Three and One-Hundred- fort, as the ammunition stores had been and-Seventy-Four-Metre Hills, past fired and the popping of ammunition the frent of the Chairbill forts and kept up all night. They did hold the into the first branch of the Shuishi crest of the hill in spite of the heavy valley, where it met the right flank artillery fire which was concentrated of the "A" division. The advance was upon them from the surrounding forts. On the left flank the left division were unable to gain a foothold upon the fort-ridge, though they advanced up the right flank the right division suc-Shiushi valley by means of a series of ceeded in forcing the Russians to dongas which ran from the railway evacuate one hundred and seventy embankment in the centre of the val- four metre hill. The fight to gain this ley practically up to the enemy's hill lasted three hours, during which trench line. In the first branch of the Japanese infantry were forced to the valley, however, the advance was remain in shallow trenches on its made for a part of the way to the slopes. With the position the Japanese open. On the west flank the right di- captured several guns of large calibre. vision made a determined assault upon A heavy artillery fire was kept up on the One-Hundred-and-Seventy-Four- the captured forts until darkness, Metre Hill. It was not successful, but when everything was quiet until about the Japanese managed to establish eleven o'clock, when a rifle fusilade in their lines upon the slope of a hill di- the first branch of the Shuishi Valley rectly in front of the advance forthill. indicated an attempt on the part of During the afternoon, under cover of a heavy field gun fire from batteries in the open Shuishi Valley, which the Russet on fire by a surprise on the advanced Panlung forts had lost during the day by a surprise was set on fire by a high explosive.

> LOSS BETWEEN 2,000 AND 3,000." The result of the day's fighting gave the Japanese possession of two of the advanced Panlung forts, enabled them to push their lines in among the higher foothills, close in upon the Russian positions in the first branch of the Shuishi valley, and secure possession of the advance fort upon the west flank upon Hundred and Seventy-four Metre Hill. The feature of the day was the first rush of the infantry up the slopes of the captured east advance Panlung forthill. Though the assaulters fell in scores, nothing seemed to shake the determination of the infantry to retain the hold they first obtained close to the crest of the hill. When it is remembered that the advance was made under the most awful concentrated fire imaginable up a steep slope, the work of the first party to ascend the forthill, cutting the wire ly for that state. Mr. Stewart went to entanglements as they went to give free passage to those who came after, the feat was in every sense a remarkable tribute to the fearless courage of the Japanese infantry. The Japanese casualties amounted to between two and three thousand during the day. most of which occurred in the capture of the two advanced forts. The Russian losses could not be ascertained, but they must have lost a considerable number of men in the capture of the W. RICHMOND SMITH.

FOUND DEAD.

Body of Woodstock Man Was Discovered in His Room.

WOODSTOCK Dec. 27.-The body of James Kelly was found dead in his room this morning at the Brunswick house. The cause of death is as yet unknown. An inquest will be held this evening. The man was about 70 years of age, and had connections in this and York counties. It is thought his death resulted from heart failure.

Rev. Jas. A. Bastian, curate of Woodstock for the past year, leaves tomorrow evening for the Pacific coast, his indifferent health requiring his going to a more moderate climate. This afternoon at a special meeting of the vestry, Mrs. Garden, on behalf of the parishioners, read an address to Mr. Bastian and asked his acceptance of an accompanying purse of gold Mr. Bastian was much surprised and deeply touched. He made a most impressive reply to the address, expressing his regret that his health demanded his making the change, his appreciation of the year he has spent working for Archdeacon Neales, and the affection he felt for his fellow

churchmen in Woodstock. On Christmas day, A. J. Way, proprietor of the Turner house, was preented with a handsome hat rack for the house, the presentation on behalf of the guests being made by J. D.

The Kind Your Have Always Bought Bears the

Carey.

CHARLOTTETOWN.

EVEN A FEW HOURS CAN BE Annual Meeting of Fruit Growers' Association.

> Home After a Twelve Years' Cruise-American Potato Trade Dull-Recent Deaths.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec ation was held here this week. The dustry. There were special exhibits of day an address was presented to Lieut. ers were A. M. Neill chief of the fruit division. Ottawa: Prof. McCann of Ottawa; Senator Ferguson, John Robertson, W.C. White, John Johnstone, Inspector Vroom, Theodore Ross, J. J. Hughes, M. P., Alexander Martin, M. P., Lleut. Governor McKinnon, Mayor Kelly, Rev. A. E. Burke and F. L. Haszard. According to the best authority this province is eminently adapted for fruit growing and in the markets of the world it is certain soon to take a leading place. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Rev. A. E. Burke, re-elected; vice-president, John Johnson; secre-

was a scarcity of the Christmas tursold, several of them weighing from the scarcity is that during the past catacombs and the ruins of Pompeii. month or two buyers from Boston and other New England towns have been in live birds. Geese too, are very scarce and sell readily at \$1.25 each. Here is people to engage in.

James W. Smith returned to his home in Charlottetown this week from the United States. During his absence he was a compressed air worker at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Terre Haute, Indiana and Theous. In all these works Mr. Smith says there has been nothing to compare in depth with the Hillsboro bridge construction. He was also engaged on the tunnel under the East river, New York. Gilbert Desroches of Miscouche, had

shoulder dislocated by being thrown from a sleigh a few days ago. James D. McLeod has resigned the principalship of Montague school to enter upon pastoral work under the direction of the Baptist missionary board of the maritime provinces. Engineer Knowlton has finished work

for the season on the southern approach to the Hillsboro bridge. He had fifty men employed with three locomotives, steam shovel, spreaders, etc. The Dominion Packing Co. is in liquidation and H. R. Longueil has been appointed provisional liquidator. The closing of this business is a severe loss to our farmers.

McDonald school at Guelph, have returned home. John McLeod, engineer of the str.

P. E. I. hospital. Maggie Sellar leaves here on Monday for Winnipeg, where she will be

married to Lemuel McLeod, formerly of Charlottetown. Benjamin Heartz has returned from California, but his health is even worse

than when he went away some two months ago. Alfred Stewart, formerly of Marshfield. P. E. I., has been elected by an overwhelming majority member of the new house of the next general assemb-

Colorado when he was sixteen years

old. Mark Cuming, son of Charles Cuming, engineer of the str. Princess, has arrived home after twelve years' absence. Mr. Cuming followed the sea and has circled the globe again and again. His most notable cruise was one lasting five months taken two summers ago on the large steam pleasure

STARTLING MEDICAL WORK A BOOK FOR MEN, MARRIED AND SINGLE Perfect Manhood and How to Attain It."

This work gives a full explanation of a wonderful method for the quick restoration of perfect manhood in all that the term implies; a method that overcomes every evil condition of the sexual system; giving to the weakest organs and portions their natural vigor and tone: and to those shrunken and stunted their normal and proper pro-

It explains how to build up all sexual bodily and mental vigor. It explains how to avoid all the physical evils of married life. It explains how to cure sexual weak-

ness in any stage. It explains how to cure most bladder kidney and urinary diseases. It explains how to cure unnatural losses from dreams, in urine, etc. It explains how to cure nervousness

trebidation, lack of self confidence. It explains how to cure varicocele. It explains how to give tone to renove excitability, to overcome sensiiveness, to remove physical and mental irritability. It explains how the entire sexual sy

em of the male may be brought to

that condition so essential to general good health and peace of mind. To many this book is uninteresting and valueless, being a purely medical treatise; to others, to those whose welfare is at stake, it is one of the most important publications ever issued from

One copy may be had in a plain, seal- York. ed envelope, postage paid and entirely free of charge, by the man who writes for it in good faith for his own use or

for some friend. Company, Dept. P., Buffalo, N. Y.



There are two special leatures about GRANBY RUBBERS, THEY LOOK WELL, AND THEY WEAR LIKE IRON."

yacht Narada, owned by Henry Wat- return to New York; Dr. David T. Mc-There was a big display of poultry ters, the wealthy American capitalist. in the city market yesterday. There On this voyage he touched at several French points, Monte Carlo, Naples, Rome, through the Tryhemian Sea, Greege, Corinth, Constantinople, Cola, 20 to 26 phounds. Prices ruled from 14 in Austria, Venice, etc. He visited the cago. to 15 cents per pound. The reason of vatican, St. Peters, the Coliseum, the Recent marriages in this province include: George R. Bowness of Nor sington; Percy W. Crozier of Darnies and Elizabeth McDowell of Carleton Joseph Alexander Kennedy of Mon tague and Catherine McLean of Medicine Hat, N. W. T.; William Morrison of Summerside and Nina McKay of Malpeque; fra D. Walker of Kelvin Grove nad Bessie Whitehead of Clinton. Marriages of Islanders elsewhere include: William C. Nowlan of Queensport, N. S., and Laura J. Kirby of horses. One concern alone in Nova of Half Cove, N. S., formerly of Murray Harbor South: Ethel E. Musgrave of North Sydney and Capt. G. A. Pet-Montague; Bertha T. McAvoy of Boston and Amos McAuley of Boston, formerly of O'Leary; Owen W. Crouse of Weston, Mass.. and Euphemia Campbell, formerly of Uigg; A. D. Camp- to our farmers, who in other years bell, formerly of Campbell's Cove, and have generally had an abundance to Florence D. Tufts of Rosindale, Mass.

son has been engaged in banking at Nanaimo, but retired from the bank two weeks ago. On his retirement he was presented with a handsome gold watch

It is announced that tenders are to be called for at once for the building The teachers who were attending the of a new railway station in Charlottetown. The site is to be nearly oppothe whole of the block adjoining, to-Northumberland, is seriously ill at the gether with a portion of Water street. Some objection is made to the site, but the general opinion is that no agitation should be raised on this score, but rather that we should secure what is now within our reach. The new building will be 136x60 feet. It will be built of pressed red brick, with Walor cupper roof. The offices will be

Rev. R. W. Stevenson will preach Sands, aged 65; Mrs. Simeon Le Blanc his farewell sermon in the Central of Charlottetown, aged 44; Mrs. Na-Christian chruch on January 8th. He thaniel Peardon of Charlottetown, aged will then leave for Ontario, where he 68; Mrs. John Stewart of Cross Roads. has accepted the position of superin- aged 71; Mrs. Mathias McCormac of tendent of missions for the Christian Selkirk, aged 85; William Gamble of church in that province. He has been Muddy Creek, aged 69; Thomas Dodd obliged to take this step owing to the Rogers of Charlottetown, aged 33: Mrs. continued illness of his wife, who is William Leslie of Charnwood, aged 73; compelled to remove to another eli- Aeneas Morrison of France Road, aged mate. Mr. Stevenson's removal is 12; Emily Leslie McFarlane of Chargenuinely regretted among all classes, lottetown, aged 8; Mrs. F. H. Sanderfor in his departure this province loses son of St. Peter's Bay, aged 62; Saman exceedingly active man in every uel Cobb of Charlottetown; Mrs. McRae

studying law.

cent severe illness. J. Augustus Bentley is opening a law office in Summerside. He is a son of W. H. Bentley of Kensington. E. B. Williams, of the firm of McKinnon & Williams, is removing to Summerside. Since Mr. McKinnon has been appointed to the governorship, the legal business of this firm will be taken by ex-Judge Warburton and Alder Brehant. Our shippers report a dull season's trade in potatoes this year with Boston. This is owing to the neormous crop in Maine. Sound Grenemounts are 55 cents per bushel, but there is no demand for Dakotas. The probabilities are that the market will continue low through the spring. But this is largely offset by the immense smelts, which are being shipped from here to the Boston and New York in the gale of December 3. markets, and for which top notch

prices are being paid. Recent arrivals here include W. E. Poole of Lower Montague; Harry shipping is feared, as few vessels an White of Charlottetown; Art Lea of now moving in these waters. Victoria; F. J. Wright of Bedeque, returning from the Canadian West; Fred Easter and wife, from Humboldt. Minn. to visit their former home at Mount Wiltshire, after nine years' absence; John D. McPhersen, from Cranbrook. B. C., on a few weeks' visit to his home in Clarktown; Amy M. Caryer, from Mount Allison, to spend his holidays at her home in Pownal: Mrs. H. V. Palmer, returning from New

U. S. Consul Vail and Mrs. Vail have gone on a two weeks' vacation to Boston and New York; Capt. Craig of the str. City of London to spend the Address the publishers, Esie Medical winter in Kingston; George Hyndman to take a position in the finance department at Ottawa; Dot Robertson on

visiting his home in Flat River; Mrs. Annie D. McKay returning to North Dakota, after visiting her home in Wilmot Valley; J. M. Wiley to Chi-

Col. D. Stewart has been elected by acclamation councillor for Ward 4 to contest the local election.

An epidemic of la grippe and pneuionia is raging in Charlottetown. Three and four members of one family are down with it in several cases and classes in many of the school rooms are being decimated.

A large number of horses are being shipped from here. Farmers are sell-ing them cheap owing to the shortage of hay. Prince Edward Island is certainly a great country for the raising Scotia purchased 100 heavy horses here hay purchased by the government in Quebee, no more than one-third has yet been brought across the straits. CONFESSION SAVES The winters steamers are carrying it free, as is also the I. C. R. The im portation of this hay is a great relief

dispose of. Howard Ferguson, eldest son of Senator Ferguson, has arrived with his wife, and child from Nanaimo, B. C. on a visit to his parents. Mr. Fergusal, has been released after being for only seven weeks deprived of his liberty. People are enquiring whether this elease is due to political wire-pulling. If so it is another sorry tribute to th administration of justice in this pro-

> Both winter steamers are now plying egularly between Georgetown and Plotou and the congestion of freight is Another Proof of the Worthlessness being removed. It is clear that with the increasing volume of winter trade to and from this province a third winter steamer is an absolute necessity, two on the Pictou route and one on the Tormentine route.

Recent deaths in this province include Mrs. William Mutch of Sumerside. aged 41; Mary Nicholson of Flat River aged 78: Duncan Profit of Bloomfield lace grey stone trimmings, and slate aged 60; George W. Bell of Roseville; Mrs. James D. Rattray of Union North large, airy and conveniently arranged. Lot 33, aged 37; Neil McNeil of Little of Charlottetown, aged 78. Deaths of body of the man. Everything appear-Arthur A. Sullivan has returned Islande:s elsewhere: Franklin Coffin from London, where he has been of Long Beach, California, formerly of St. Peter's Bay, aged 69; Mrs. Alexan The friends of A. W. Scott will be der Hayder of Vancouver, formerly of pleased to learn that his little boy is Charlottetown; Lily Perry of Chelsea, making steady recovery from his re- Mass., formerly of Tignish, aged 20.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Chart Hitching

FEARED SHE FOUNDERED.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Dec. 27.-The sch Begonia, with a crew of eight men, overdue three weeks, has been posted as missing. It is feared she founder quantities of fresh fish, principally ed. The Begonia is the only vesse unreported of all those driven seaward Another flerce blizzard swept the

coast Saturday, Sunday and Monday, blocking traffic. Little damage to



Sold by allowedicine dealers.

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FROM GALLOWS

Man Convicted by Circumstantial Evidence.

of This Kind of Evidence-Con-

demned Man Believed by All to be Guilty.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 25 .- The solving of the mystery surrounding the murder of James Garrett, a stockman, whose ranch was in the northwestern portion of the state, by the confession of Otto Erickson, aged nineteen, who admitted that he committed the crime, with two brothers, aged twenty-one and fourteen, again shows the worthlessness of circumstantial evidence.

Gus Matson, a stockman, who lived near Garrett's ranch, was arrested soon after the disappearance of Garrett, several weeks ago, on the charge of having murdered and hidden the ed for a time to point to Matson as the murderer of his friend and former partner.

Matson when first arrested admitted that Garrett had been at his ranch a short time before his disappearance and that they drank together. From this and the discovery of a trail leading across the prairie from a point within a few miles of Matson's home, and giving evidence that it had been made by the dragging of a body along the ground, many believed that Matson was responsible for the disappearance But for the confession of Erickson

the state would have been able to present a strong chain of circumstantial evidence against Matson. Another circumstance which would

have strengthened the case against him was the agitation shown by him when informed in his cell that the body of Garrett had been found after a systematic search lasting many When told of the finding of the body Matson exclaimed:-

"My God! boys, you can kill me now, but I am innocent.' His agitation was thought to be evidence of a guilty conscience, but it is now apparent that Matson realized the nosition he was in and that although

innocent, he might be unable to establish his innocence had the case come to trial. So firm was the belief in his guilt and so bitter the feeling against him, that stockmen who were engaged in the search for Garrett's body proclaimed their intention of taking Mat-

son from jatt. Now that Erickson has confessed having committed the murder, Matson is again a free man and stands windle cated before his friends and accurate

Otto Erickson, the confessed murderer, was employed several years ago by the Homestake Mining Company as a tool packer and left their employ to go ranch with his brothers