

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

At about half-past 10 yesterday morning a fire broke out on the premises occupied by Messrs. S. Marks and Co., at the corner of Hunt and Sylvester streets. The fire bell was promptly rung, and Captain Pearce, Secretary Levinson, and other members of the fire brigade, arrived on the scene in the shortest possible time, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames, which had been kept in check to some extent by the occupants of the house, with the aid of Mr. Laurie, whose large tank of water was of valuable assistance. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a small spirit lamp, and the consequent ignition of the hessian walls of the building. A portion of the partition and ceiling of Messrs. Laurie and Co.'s adjoining premises was also burnt. The brigadiers are to be commended for their promptness in arriving on the scene in such a speedy manner. If the fire had once got well under way the whole of the adjacent block of buildings might have been destroyed.

It has been clearly demonstrated before now that the material being used in forming the streets in Coolgardie sets much better in wet than in fine weather. Notwithstanding this, the men employed in the streets have stopped working at the order of the Municipal Council. As there is a possibility of it not raining or another two or three years the Council should seize the opportunity of forming the streets under favorable conditions.

Mr. J. H. Penberthy, of the firm of Penberthy, Stodart, and Duff, died yesterday morning from inflammation of the lungs, after an illness of a little over a week. Drs. Morrow and Hill, assisted by two trained nurses, were in attendance upon the deceased gentleman during his illness, but neither care nor skill could avail against the virulence of the disease. Mr. Penberthy was a native of St. Arnaud, Victoria, and the son of Mr. J. H. Penberthy, J.P., of that town. For a considerable time he held a responsible position in the Bank of Victoria. On arriving in this colony in the latter part of 1889, he joined the firm of Messrs. Angove and Co., auctioneers, in Albany, where he remained for four years. He came to Coolgardie in 1893, and shortly afterwards entered into partnership with Mr. Stodart, a business relationship which continued until the time of his death. Deceased was well and favorably known in the town, and his death will be generally regretted. He leaves a widow and seven young children, for whom the deepest sympathy is felt.

Yesterday at Mount Lenora, in the Mount Malcolm district, a prospector named Edward Sullivan committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver. No reason is assigned for the rash act.

Yesterday morning an accident occurred at Boorabbin, resulting in rather serious injuries to a ganger named Martin Flanagan. It appears that Flanagan and four other fettlers were riding on a trolley down an incline while a strong wind was blowing from behind. Suddenly the trolley left the line and Flanagan was thrown on the rails and

and Flanagan was thrown on the rails and injured on the left thigh and groin. The other men were lucky enough to escape without injury.

During the 24 hours ending at 9 yesterday morning 12 points of rain fell. Since then there has been one or two downpours, accompanied by cold winds, and the weather is extremely wintry.

Several exemptions were applied for at the Warden's Court yesterday, but in each case the application was refused.

Bulong appears to be going ahead rapidly. Population is increasing, and there are now over 2,000 people within a radius of 20 miles of the post office. The Progress Committee and the people of the town are working harmoniously, with the result that good progress is being made in sanitary affairs, street cleaning, and other matters of importance. There are now two constables in the town, with the result that order and quietness are being maintained. The Government have promised to appoint a Registrar, and are now considering the advisability of appointing a Warden for Bulong and district. A perusal of the case list at Kanonwa will show that most of the business comes from Bulong. The first open call was commenced last Saturday night, and some good business was done. The local racing club is in a flourishing condition, over £200 being already promised for the next meeting in August, and subscriptions are still coming in. The racecourse is a really good one, and a lot of improvements have been made on it. Some time since the secretary of the Bulong Progress committee wrote to the Premier thanking him and the

wrote to the Premier thanking him and the other Ministers for the favors they had bestowed on Bulong. Sir John Forrest in reply wrote, "Bulong has a warm place in my heart, and I will do all in my power to further its interests."

Mr. L. C. Goodrich will address the electors for the Eastern Province to-night, at the Theatre Royal, when the chair will be taken by Mr. C. J. Moran, M.P.

An interesting commentary on the recent Lake Lefroy exemption applications is furnished by the report of Mr. S. W. Pearce to the directors, which appears in our mining columns. The ground of the application for exemption was that there was no water in the neighborhood. Mr. Pearce, the manager, however, says:—"About 100ft. from our boundary people are getting splendid fresh water at 50ft. We expect to cut the same in a week or two." This was dated June 15th. The application for exemption was heard on July 6th!

The offices of the Town Clerk of Menzies were burnt down yesterday. The West Australian Bank, which is close by, had a narrow escape from a similar fate, the heat of the fire breaking the windows. The origin of the fire is not yet known.

Mons. Ovide Musin, who, in company with his talented wife and Mons. Etouard Scharf, will give a musical entertainment in Coolgardie to-morrow evening, was born in Belgium some 40 years ago. At the early age of eight he displayed such a remarkable talent for music that his father sent him to the Royal Conservatory, where three years

the Royal Conservatory, where three years later he received the first prize for violin playing, and at the age of 13 he was appointed teacher of the violin in that famous school. In 1870, Leonard, the celebrated violinist and composer, having heard Musin, was so well pleased with him that he persuaded his parents to allow him to choose the career of an artist, and from that time to the present his progress has been a succession of triumphs in every part of the world he has visited, and it is generally conceded by the best critics that the world has never seen more than one or, at the most two violinists who could be considered his equal. Madame Annie Louise Musin is known as the American nightingale, and is distinguished by the possession of a phenomenal range of voice, together with great sweetness and power. M^{rs} E. Scharf also is one of the leading pianists of the day, and the trio are far and away the most formidable array of musical talent that has visited these fields.

The next issue of the **FIONEER** will contain a special supplement filled with illustrations of the defence of Bulowayo, which are reproduced by arrangement with the proprietors of the London *Graphic*. Six splendid pictures by *Graphic* artists will comprise the supplement which will be of more than ordinary interest.

The manager of the Union Bank of Australia (Mr. Gordon, J P), will be removing into the new premises of the bank on Monday next. The ornate frontage has long been regarded with pleasure as a distinct

been regarded with pleasure as a distinct improvement to the aspect of Bayley-street, and we are glad to say that the disposition of the interior is fully in accordance with what the front elevation would lead us to expect. The banking-room is one of the largest and most handsomely fitted in Western Australia. The counters of pine and jarrah are beautifully designed and moulded, and the various veneers, &c., are distinctly ornamental. Ample accommodation is provided for two tellers and the usual staff of clerks, accountants, &c. There are also gold, manager's, and strong rooms, all of a very commodious and convenient character. At the rear of the premises is the manager's dwelling, which is replete with all the comforts and conveniences usual in such establishments. The building is fitted throughout with electric light, and constitutes a place of business of which the bank and the town have every reason to be proud.

The Bulong (I.O.U.) Racing Club will hold their first annual meeting on Wednesday, August 26. The club have put forward a very good programme, full particulars of which will be found in our advertising columns. Nominations for the Handicap Hurdle Race, Flying Handicap, Bulong Handicap, and Ladies' Bracelet are to be in the hands of the secretary not later than 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29. Weights will be declared on August 15; acceptances and general entries not later than 8 p.m. on August 22.

A telegram from Albany states that the *Ophir*, from London, will arrive there on the evening of Friday, the 17th, and then sail

Ship, from London, will arrive here on the evening of Friday, the 17th, and thence sail for the Eastern Colonies at about midnight.

The Union Bank of Australia, Limited notify that on and after Monday next the business of the bank in Coolgardie will be conducted in the new premises in Bayley-street, opposite the Mutual Stores.

Mr. J. C. Thompson, who is now in Adelaide, on Tuesday gave one of the *S.A. Register* representatives some information concerning a new stock route from Eucla to Coolgardie which he recently discovered. Mr. Thompson first made the overland journey from Eucla last November, when he took charge of a flock of 2,400 sheep belonging to Messrs. Willis Brothers and Brown, of Nullarbor station, on the West Coast of South Australia. He proceeded along a line of 15 miles north of Eucla, and 30 miles due north of Eyre's Patch, and from there struck into Israelite Bay. There the sheep were shorn and sold, and on behalf of Messrs. Talbot & Jevens he carried the flock on to Coolgardie, arriving there on June 19. Mr. Thompson then went back to Eucla overland, and found a new route. This was 200 miles shorter than the one he previously traversed, and was better watered, there being rock holes holding from 10 to 3,000 gallons of water every four to six miles. It was over this route that Mr. Thompson made a second overland trip to Coolgardie with 18 horses. The trip occupied about two months, and he had no difficulty in finding good water and feed, the horses reaching Coolgardie in fine condition. He considers that if the Western Australian Government would only expend a few pounds

ment would only expend a few pounds in putting down tanks or enlarging the rock holes a really good stock route could be opened up between Coolgardie and South Australia during the winter months. There are good clay-pans on the route for catchment areas and tanks. Ponton's station is on the route, part of which was traversed by Sir John Forrest when he went overland to Adelaide. The Western Australian Premier's party, however, kept nearer to the coast after leaving Ponton's than Mr. Thompson did. During the journey Mr. Thompson underwent great hardships, four horses dying from thirst, while he also lost a blackboy. He is a native of Natal, South Africa, and is a son of Commander James Thompson, who has charge of one of the native regiments there. He arrived here early in 1892, and up to February last was in the employ of the Beltana Pastoral Co. Mr. Thompson will shortly proceed to Port Augusta to take to Coolgardie a mob of twenty five horses. He will make for Koola, and then travel over the new route to his destination.

There will be a complete change of programme each night of Miss Gwen Davies' season and the interpretation of standard songs by an artist of Miss Davies' standing should prove a special feature to all music lovers. Signor Randeggar and Mr. Fred. Walker, the leading professors of the Royal Academy of Music, London, are responsible for the training of Miss Davies' voice, while her association with Messrs. Santley, Edward Lloyd, Signor Feli, Mesdames Patey, Sterling, Belle Cole, Mary Davis, and the leading singers of the day, have helped to give the finish and style which is requisite for a popu-

finish and style which is requisite for a popular vocalist. Miss Gwen Davies will on Thursday evening be pleased to render any songs particularly asked for, the names of which should be sent in to Mr. Hansen, Theatre Royal, not later than Wednesday next. "The Lost Chord," "The Promise of Life," "The Summer Shower," "Twickenham Ferry," "Oh, Promise Me," and Braga's "Ferenata," are down on the programmes.

Dramatic recitals, with musical accompaniment, will be given and the last item each evening will be one of Miss Davies' clever original sketches.

On Sunday evening next the concert arranged by Mr. Wm. Hansen promises to be a great success. Miss Carr-Glyn, the charming contralto, will take part, and her appearance will be hailed with delight by all lovers of vocalisation. All the old favorites will appear with some new talent, making in all one of the best concerts we have had in Coolgardie for some time.