

The Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, United States of America) · 2 Feb 1898, Wed · Page 3

Printed on Feb 3, 2019



SUICIDE OF THOMAS L. THOMP-SON AT SANTA ROSA.

One of the Most Prominent Democrats of the State a Victim of Temporary Delusions.

HIS JUGULAR VEIN SEVERED.

USED A BOWIE-KNIFE THAT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO HIM.

Dry Weather for Ranchers-Republican League of Oregon-Man Saved by a Watch-San Francisco Honds.

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[ASSOCIATED PRESS NIGHT REPORT.] SANTA ROSA, Feb. 1.—Thomas L. Thompson, ex-Minister to Brazil, ex-Congressman, ex-Secretary of State, and one of the most prominent Democrats of California, died by his own hand while laboring under temporary insanity today.

For several days he had been subject to delusions, and had worried over business affairs until he imagined he was in serious trouble. He also imagined that many of his old friends had become unfriendly to him. For the past few days his mental condition has been a matter of the gravest solicitude to his friends, although at intervals he was perfectly sane.

His family exercised a close surveillance over him while he was laboring under these temporary delusions. Yesterday he called on several of his old friends, and his peculiar actions alarmed them. Realizing his condition, Mrs. Thompson sent for his brother, Robert A. Thompson, on Saturday, and since that time he had been in the

house constantly with the ex-Minister.
This morning Thompson rose earlier than usual, and after breakfast left the dining-room. His brother Robert started after him, but was detained by a member of the family. Thompson went into the bathroom and shortly afterward, hearing a peculiar noise, a member of his family went to the door, when the ex-Minister shut and locked it. The next moment he fell to the When the door was opened the ex-Minister was found dead in room, having severed his jugular vein with a bowie knife that had been presented to him.

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