

Murderous Assault by Chilean Pete

"Chilean Pete Tries to Kill the Chinese Cook of Latona House," read the *Morning Leader* headline on Oct. 9, 1897.

"Chilean Pete, or Peter Chilly is the appellation the police give a man who was arrested last night for striking and pummeling the Chinese cook employed at the Latona hotel. The offender is a boarder at the caravanary and it is said went to the kitchen in search of food, after the dinner hour had passed. The cook objected to such assumption of authority, and vigorously rebelled.

"The answer came not in words but by the placing of sailor knuckles on the physiognomy of the celestial, facetiously, as it were, mutilating its proportions, and producing various hues, and irregular knolls—that now adorn the swarthy countenance. The Chinaman ran into the streets, crying for help, murder, and the ruffianous assailant followed with dagger in hand determined to make extinct the life of the culinary artist. The shriek of the Chinaman brought Police Officer Long to the scene who arrested and locked up the assailant."