

THE PLATTSMOUTH WEEKLY JOURNAL.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

VOL. 14, NO. 2.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1895.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

TO SPAN THE PLATTE.

Work On the B. & M's. New Steel Bridge Will Soon Commence.

AS TO MURDERER HARRY HILL.

The Weeping Water Republican Files a Complaint Against the Idea of His Sentence Being Commuted—Other Jottings.

Active preparations are being made for the commencement of work on the Burlington's new steel bridge across the Platte river just north of this city, mention of which was first made in these columns several months ago. The erection of the bridge has been contemplated for some time, but the officials chose to delay matters until the new year so that the expenses for the same could not be charged up to '94. A switch has lately been constructed on the Sarpy side of the river and next to the present bridge, for the purpose of storing material, and considerable of the latter is now in course of transportation, it being the intention of the bridge building department to put matters through with a rush. Several cars of stringers and piling are now on hand. A temporary pile bridge will first be erected and around this structure the permanent steel bridge will be erected. Everything points to the commencement of work early in January and weather permitting the company officials expect to have their trains whizzing across the only steel bridge which spans the Platte river by the first of next June.

Hill Should Hang Weeping Water Republican.

A petition is being circulated in the eastern part of the county asking the governor to commute Murderer Hill's sentence from that of hanging to imprisonment for life. Hill, in the killing of old Mr. Akesson, committed a cold-blooded, premeditated, foul murder, without any provocation whatever. His trial, conviction and long confinement have been a heavy expense to the tax-payers of the county, who felt like lynching the villain at the time of his capture and self-confession.

If this fiend-incarnate should now escape the gallows after having had a fair trial before an impartial judge and a jury of twelve reputable citizens, who decided that his punishment should be death by hanging; we say that should he now escape the gallows, the next Cass county murderer who is caught, may not have the opportunity to get a trial. It is just such action as these petitioners would bring about, which causes determined men to become disgusted with legal proceedings and to make them feel like taking the law into their own hands.

Another fact that should be considered is that, according to our state law, the governor on each Fourth of July is in duty bound to pardon two of the prisoners confined in the penitentiary, who are serving a life sentence. The number of such prisoners is so few that a man as a rule is sure to get out in about fifteen years. In other words a life sentence in the Nebraska penitentiary is far more preferable to a convict than a sentence of twenty years.

Those who are asked to sign Hill's petition should consider this matter, for in signing they ask that this murderer of the deepest die be turned loose on society again, where he may murder other innocent people. The petition won't get any signatures in this part of the county, and, if it becomes necessary, a remonstrance should be circulated. Hill must hang.

STRAYED—Red Irish setter pup, five months old. W. C. BENFER.

The Boy Wanted to Know.

The correspondent for the Omaha Bee at Ashland is responsible for the following: "A good joke on misunderstanding a brakeman calling stations happened the other day at La Platte, just out of Plattsmouth on the Burlington. When a brakeman called out 'L-a-P-l-a-t-t-e' at one end of the coach, a little boy of five years was seen to grab his mother by the arm and exclaim: 'O, mamma, why does he want us to lay flat?'"

John Drain, of Fremont, formerly of this city, died Thursday and was buried in the family lot at Oak Hill cemetery. The body will arrive on the noon train. When he resided in Plattsmouth he lived at the corner of Eleventh and Timber streets. Old residents will remember him as a carpenter.

NEW YEAR.

O, fair New Year, in your robe of white,
What are you bringing to me tonight?
What is there hid beneath the fold
Of your furry cloak? A bag of gold?

What are you hiding behind your dress?
A smile, a tear, or a sweet caress?
Have you a book with the tale writ down,
O, Stranger Year, with your coat of down?

Is it a dimpled and fairy form—
Hazel like a rose-leaf, soft and warm,
A pearl picked up from the Heav'nly shore—
Will this be mine when your reign is o'er?

What do you hold in your hands, close hid:
Some flowers to lay on a coffin lid?
I dare not look if you stood aside
And showed me the door held open wide.

What are you bringing me? Peace and rest—
A narrow bed with its head to west,
A dreamless slumber, a sweet repose,
A waking far from all earthly woes?

O, fair New Year, in your robe of white,
What are you bringing to me tonight?
And what will you take from me ere you go,
O, fair New Year, in your robe of snow?

—ISABEL RICHEY.

Death of John Fitzgerald.

At 2:20 o'clock Sunday morning John Fitzgerald, the great railway contractor, died at his residence in Lincoln, surrounded by his wife and four children. His demise was not unexpected, as he had been suffering from paralysis for some time, and especially since Christmas.

Having been a resident of this city for many years, the story of his life would interest many of our readers. He was born in Limerick, Ireland, in 1829, and his father, having been evicted from his holdings when his son was sixteen years of age, he removed to America, where John soon developed a genius for building canals, digging ditches and building railroads. In 1868-9 he contracted and built the last 150 miles of the B. & M. road in western Iowa, to Pacific Junction, and, in company with R. C. Cushing, S. H. Mallory and others, built most of the B. & M. R. in Nebraska, locating in Plattsmouth in 1869, and he did much toward the building up of this city for ten years thereafter.

He removed his home from Plattsmouth to Lincoln in 1878. He at once took a front rank among the leading capitalists of that city. He was elected president of the First National bank, and was a director in many other enterprises. He built one of the finest suburban homes in the capital city and contributed liberally to all charitable works. He was an active member of the Catholic church, and was of great assistance to that denomination in a pecuniary way.

In 1887 he commenced the contract for constructing a line of railroad from Pueblo, Colo., to the eastern boundary of Kansas, and it was this work which involved him in difficulties which had so much to do with ending his well-spent life, and to finish this road Mr. Fitzgerald exhausted his available resources. He became involved in litigation with Gould, Sage and other well known wreckers of railroads and private fortunes, and the complications surrounded him until now.

He was a patriotic citizen of the land of his adoption, but he never lost sympathy for the cause of his unhappy native land. He was a zealous worker for the cause of Ireland, and in 1889 was elected president of the Irish National League, holding the office for two years. In 1892 Mr. Fitzgerald, in company with several other distinguished Irish-Americans, visited Ireland in an endeavor to reconcile the warring factions of the Irish party, but with indifferent success.

His death removes one of the men who have done much to make Nebraska what she is. He was active, progressive, public spirited and earnest.

His family consists of his wife and four children, Edward J., Paul, John, Jr., and Lillian. Mrs. Chas. McEntee of this city was his sister, while Mrs. Wm. Neville, Mrs. Lafa O'Neill, Mrs. John Kelly and J. W. Burke were cousins. The estate which he leaves is valued at nearly \$2,000,000.

H. C. McMaken & Son have closed a contract for delivering 10,000 tons of ice, and have also arranged to get their ice from the lake on Dr. Geo. L. Miller's place at Deerfield, near Omaha. The lake is an artificial one and is filled with water from an artesian well, which is said to be absolutely pure, such water as men in Omaha are paying \$100 a week for their drinking water supply. Mr. Mc. thinks the city council did them a great favor when it refused to grade up the alley adjacent to their ice house, as it led to the closing of a much better bargain. They may put in some ice here, but not so much as they would have done if they had been treated with any liberality.

Johnson's Oriental Soap imparts a delicate odor and leaves the skin soft and velvety. Sold by Fricke & Co.

ONE THING AND ANOTHER.

The writer was a witness to the presentation of a New Year's gift that was as surprising as it was pleasant. Claus Brekenfeld came down Sixth street from the north. Fred Murphy came across Main street from the opposite direction. They met at the northeast corner. "Wait a moment," said the former to the scribe. "As a souvenir of the season and a reminder of other days, I take pleasure in presenting to you this beautiful and valuable emblem of an order which exemplifies and enlarges upon the confidence, esteem and love which should exist between fellow men—the Knights of Pythias—and I only hope that you may wear it with honor, and never lose it—again," and he gave the charm to his friend, while a significant smile stole over his face. "Well, I'll swear," were the words that came first to the lips of the astonished recipient, and then the two fell into a reminiscent mood and recalled how that the emblem had been lost by Fred in the sands on the Iowa side of the Missouri river last fall while the two were over there hunting wild grapes. A boy who lived over there had found it near the ferry and recently brought it over to Claus, who paid him for his honesty, and kept it till the occasion here spoken of. That emblem will be doubly valuable to Mr. Murphy hereafter.

THE CORRECT THING.

The editor of this paper has been invited to the annual banquet to be given by the Omaha Jacksonian club on Saint Jackson's day, January 8. Perhaps a poor country editor ought to feel complimented by such a call, but this one doesn't. Fact is, he feels himself too good a democrat to break bread with the Mortons, McShanes, Martins, Paxtons, Whites, and their ilk—men who worship the Wall street golden calf in the morning, and vote the railroad republican ticket in the evening of an evil-doing day.—Papillon Times.

Mrs. Belle Richey will kindly accept our thanks for a very neatly bound copy of a limited edition of her poems, from the press of Charles Wells Moulton, Buffalo. We shall read it with much interest and from the standpoint of personal friendship for the author, and can say in advance that it contains many poems of merit written with true poetic instinct and in rhythmic melody.

A fearful accident occurred the other day on the farm of Antone Sieverding, four and a half miles west of Maquoketa, Iowa. Joseph Sieverding with his father and brothers were engaged sawing wood with a power saw when he tripped and fell upon the saw. His left hand and wrist were frightfully mangled. His head, too, came in contact with the saw, near the left side of the jaw, and crashing through the bone, plowed its way to the back of the neck, nearly severing the head from the body. In spite of his fearful wounds he walked to the house unaided and wrote a few lines regarding his wife and children, as he could not talk. He died shortly after.

Two Cass county men were candidates before the caucus of republican representatives at Lincoln—Hon. Jno. A. Davies for the speakership and F. H. Wilson for the clerkship. Neither man was successful. The result simply illustrates the blunders of the republicans in this county. They seem willing at all times to vote into office the same old ring, but in the division of the fruit Cass is never a factor.

On Saturday last Jack Raikes of Billingstown was enroute to Omaha with a load of wood, and when near Bellevue four young men from Omaha with guns on their shoulders crossed the road near him, and one of them accidentally let his gun go off, the shot striking both of Raikes' mules in the necks. It is thought one of the animals will die. Raikes followed the boys to Omaha, saw the sheriff, but on a promise of the payment of the damages, did not prosecute.

W. A. Gilmore, postmaster at Broken Bow, this state, is short in his accounts to the amount of \$2,000 and the town is also short on inhabitants to the amount of one person, Gilmore having left for parts unknown. Gilmore's last remittance to the government was in May. He was last seen in Omaha on the day before Christmas. His whereabouts since that date is a complete mystery to the postoffice authorities, who are now engaged in bringing the defaulted to justice.

AN ALVO PEDAGOGUE.

He Cuts Queer Capers and Leaves For Parts Unknown.

HE DRANK CARBOLIC ACID.

Arthur Truesdale, a Former Mail Agent On the Schuyler Run, Departs From This Life By the Suicide Route—Jottings.

Tantrum Of An Alvo School Teacher.

The following dispatch from Elmwood, this county, dated yesterday, tells of the escapade of W. H. Chappell, the well-known Alvo school teacher:

"W. H. Chappell, principal of the schools at Alvo, has made several very pleasant calls here during the last year, and on several occasions conducted class meetings at the Christian church, thus gaining the confidence of the people, and especially of Bird Critchfield, one of the leading members. The modest young man pledged \$5 toward the new church building, and thereupon hinged his opportunity to dupe Brother Critchfield out of \$20 in coal cash. The day before Christmas Chappell borrowed Representative A. S. Cooley's horse and cart to come to Elmwood. He was very anxious to pay his church pledge, but "had forgotten to bring any money with him. He had a good bank account at Alvo, and as he wanted a little Christmas money anyway," he wrote a check for \$25, and as he was a stranger to the bankers here, he asked Mr. Critchfield to indorse it so he could draw the money. He did so, but luckily went along to the bank with Chappell and secured the \$5 pledge. Chappell drove to Murdock, boarded a train for Omaha, and from there wrote Mr. Cooley that his rig was in the livery stable at Murdock.

"Word now comes from Alvo that Chappell drew two months' salary ahead from the treasurer of the school board. He leaves a wife and several little children in needy circumstances. This is the second caper of this kind Mr. Chappell has played. A few years ago he left home and nothing was heard of him for a long time, when a letter came from him in California, stating that he had unconsciously wandered away and had just come to his senses."

Truesdale Suicides.

The following dispatch in Monday morning's papers from Council Bluffs, will be of interest to Plattsmouth people:

"Arthur A. Truesdale, a young man formerly a canvasser, committed suicide here tonight. He and his wife were separated and they had a quarrel this afternoon over a swindling operation in which he is alleged to have taken part. As soon as she left he took carbolic acid and died in a few minutes. His parents live in Fremont, Neb."

Truesdale will be remembered as a railway mail agent who was on the run between this city and Schuyler for some ten or twelve months about four years ago. He was transferred to another run, but ultimately lost his position because of loose habits. His parents are among the most respected people in Fremont.

Kraut in half barrels. Zuckeweller & Lutz, corner Sixth and Pearl.

Trio Lodge 84, A. O. U. W. Elects Officers.

The annual election of officers of Trio lodge, A. O. U. W., occurred Friday night at their lodge rooms in Fitzgerald block. An unusually large number of members were present, and the election passed off very harmoniously, with the following result:

M. W.—E. W. Flitt.
Foreman—J. N. Summers.
Overseer—A. F. Groom.
Recorder—F. P. Brown.
Financier—G. F. Houseworth.
Receiver—F. H. Steimker.
Guide—Geo. Luchinski.
I. W.—Geo. McConvigan.
O. W.—Chas. Forbes.
Trustees—A. F. Groom, Geo. Gray, Medical Examiners—Drs. E. W. Cook, T. P. Livingston.

The lodge decided by a unanimous vote to give up the use of its hall next lodge night, Jan. 11, to the use of the Jr. O. U. A. M. to install its officers and exemplify its work, at the request of that lodge.

Japanese Pile Cure is an unfailing cure for every kind and stage of the disease. Guaranteed by Fricke & Co.

AROUND THE COURT ROOMS.

DISTRICT COURT.

Amy Bogard vs. Jno. J. Bogard is the title of a divorce suit filed in district court this week. The plaintiff lives in the vicinity of Weeping Water and asks for a separation on the ground of desertion. A. L. Timblin is her attorney.

Judge Chapman adjourned district court Monday sine die, and announced the terms of court for '95 as follows: Cass—Feb. 11, May 6 and Sep. 30. Otoe—April 2, June 10 and Nov. 18. The May term in Cass and the June term in Otoe are equity terms, while the other are jury terms.

In the application of Bertha Leola Martin for a one-eighth interest in the Shadrach Cole estate, Judge Chapman decided Friday that the application is just and should prevail. Bertha was an adopted child of the deceased, Shadrach Cole. Under a division her share of the estate would amount to some \$2,000.

Judge Chapman passed on the newspaper controversy over the Herald plant between A. B. Knotts and Blanchard & Potter, and held that the material sold by Blanchard & Potter to the News proprietors was not included in the original mortgage. Mr. Knotts was given the right to foreclose on that portion of the plant which was saved from the Herald fire in March, 1893.

COUNTY COURT.

Final settlement was made in county court yesterday in the estates of Wm. and Stephen M. C. Lloyd.

D. C. West of Nehawka was in county court Monday affecting a final settlement with County Judge Ramsey in the Bruce estate, of which Mr. West is administrator.

JUSTICE COURT.

In the case of Chas. Noyes, the Louisville horse thief, the defense filed an application Friday before Justice Archer for a continuance until Jan. 14, and the court granted the desired relief.

Ola Alex was tried and convicted before Justice Archer on Monday on the charge of stealing some fodder from the farm of Wm. Gilmour in Rock Bluffs precinct. Alex was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1 and costs, and upon furnishing security he was released. The theft occurred on Dec. 7. The value of the stolen property was fixed at about ten cents, but the testimony was of such a nature that the guilt of the accused would admit of no dispute.

COURT ROOM NOTES.

Lawyer Geo. M. Spurlock of this city has been admitted to practice before the supreme court of the state.

Judge Dundy's U. S. district court met again today at Omaha, and U. S. Marshal F. E. White, Grand Jurymen Simon Lynch and Petit Jurymen A. C. Miller were in attendance.

Mr. Travis vacated his quarters in the court house today and moved into his new office in the Union block. County Attorney Polk was in Lincoln today, and will not enter upon the fulfillment of his duties until tomorrow.

The county commissioners were in session today, with Mr. Hayes, the senior member, in the chair. Mr. Patterson filed a new bond, re-qualified and will serve as a member of the board, by appointment, until his successor is chosen at the next fall election.

Sheriff Eikenbary is home from his trip to Deadwood, S. D., whither he journeyed last week to witness the hanging of the Indian murderer, Two Sticks. The sheriff picked up some valuable pointers in regard to conducting an execution and when it becomes his unpleasant duty to officiate next March at the hanging of Harry Hill he feels that he can superintend the affair without a break.

Gustav A. Renze, well known as a sign painter in Omaha, has been sued in the Douglas county district court by Mrs. Victoria Seeley for \$10,000. Attorney Wappich filed the petition yesterday demanding that amount, charging Renze with playing false with the affections of Mrs. Seeley, a buxom lady of thirty. Renze was one of Mrs. Seeley's boarders, and she alleges that he has lived with her under promise of marriage for about three years.

The story of the abduction and possible lynching of Barrett Scott, Holt county's defaulting treasurer, smacks strongly of the fake. Most people will wait for a verification of the affair before accepting it as true.

DOINGS OF THE DAY.

Local Notes and Dashes of Interest to "Journal" Readers.

DEMISE OF JAS. E. BANNING.

One of Cass County's Earliest Settlers Passes to His Final Reward—For Their Particulars As To the Truesdale Suicides.

Death Of An Old Settler.

Jas. E. Banning, a resident of Nehawka and one of the earliest settlers in Cass county, passed to his final reward Tuesday at his home in Nehawka after a year's illness with dropsy. Deceased was some 55 years of age, and his departure is mourned by five children—three sons and two daughters. Funeral services were held today at the family residence and the remains interred in the Nehawka cemetery. The deceased for many years has been a member of the I. O. O. F. and the funeral was conducted under the auspices of the Odd Fellows' society of Nehawka.

Truesdale's Suicide.

The following dispatch from Council Bluffs gives some further information in regard to the suicide of Arthur Truesdale at that place:

"Arthur Truesdale, whose parents live in Fremont, Neb., committed suicide at the residence of Howard Collins, 1007 Fifth avenue, Council Bluffs, Sunday evening at 5 o'clock. Mr. Collins was alone in the house with him at the time. Truesdale came to the Bluffs December 10, and spent most of the time since that at the Collins house. He had trouble with his wife something over a year ago, which resulted in a separation. She went to Omaha and has been clerking in Hayden Bros. store. Sunday afternoon Mrs. Truesdale visited her husband and during the conversation the subject of a renewal of marriage relations was broached. She said that any time he could guarantee her a good living she would come back to him. She left the house and five minutes later he took the dose that killed him.

"Truesdale's father lives in Fremont, Neb., and is reputed to be a wealthy wholesale and retail dealer in flour and feed. An effort was made to telegraph him of his son's misfortune Sunday evening, but he could not be found. Up to the time he had trouble with his wife he had been employed on the Union Pacific as a postal clerk, and he was considered one of the best clerks in the service. He took to drink, committed a breach of faith and lost his position."

The Mortgage Record.

Cass county's mortgage record for the entire year of 1894, as compiled by County Clerk Dickson and Register of Deeds Hay, is as follows:

FARM PROPERTY.
Filed \$529,048.82
Released 437,348.88

TOWN PROPERTY.
Filed \$7,560.41
Released 115,919.96

CHATTEL MORTGAGES.
Filed \$180,128.44
Released 119,785.09

The record for the month of December is:

FARM PROPERTY.
Filed \$31,628.62
Released 17,718.48

TOWN PROPERTY.
Filed \$ 8,565.38
Released 14,530.65

CHATTEL MORTGAGES.
Filed \$19,443.48
Released 7,574.62

On the record for the entire year it will be noticed that the excess of town mortgages released over those filed is some \$40,000, while on farm property those filed exceed those released over \$70,000. In past years the reverse has been the general rule, but the poor showing made on farm property for this year doubtless has its origin in the shortage of crops during the past season.

A Sure Case of Insanity.

In regard to the recent shooting down at Nebraska City, the News has the following to say of Schmidt, the murderer: "Evidence of Schmidt's insanity seems to be accumulating. A few weeks ago he wrote a letter to Dr. Fay, at the Lincoln asylum, in which he accused that gentleman of driving a nail in his ear and destroying his hearing. Schmidt also said that the doctor had dropped a pill into his coffee which made him deathly sick for several days and he proposed suing for damages."

The "Plan Sifter" flour is the popular brand. Ask for it from your grocer.