

### Local News.

Good work harness for \$14.00 at T. M. Reed's.

For choice seed oats enquire of W. S. Walte.

New buggies for sale at less than cost at Watkinson's.

J. B. O'Bryan went to Grand Island to met the show people.

T. L. Pilger has reduced the price of Kerosene Oil to 12 cents a gallon.

Miss Edith Bradley of Litchfield is visiting friends in the city this week.

You can buy a good pair of unlined gloves for 25 cents at A. E. Chase's.

Just received a fine line of shirts. Price, from 25 cents up. A. E. CHASE.

Six-inch iron bolts 1 cent each, longer ones three for 5 cents. A. E. CHASE.

T. L. Pilger is selling all goods for cash or produce only. Positively no credit.

We have added quite a number of names to our list of early settlers which will appear in our book.

Hats—a fine assortment. Forty-nine cents buys a good fedora. Any kind at corresponding figures. A. E. CHASE.

Do you need a wagon, buggy, disk harrow, seeder, plow or harrow. If so, you should see T. M. Reed.

All the neckwear in the house, consisting of over 500 pieces, below cost until April 1. A. E. CHASE.

Do you need a washing machine, clothes wringer, wash boiler, tinware or anything in that line. If so call on T. M. Reed.

The north approach to the Loup river bridge has been undergoing repairs this week. It was so bad that teams could not cross Monday.

A weed in the garden can be easily destroyed when it first starts. Consumption can be nipped in the bud by One Minute Cough Cure. Odendahl Bros.

Mr. Hickman, purchaser of the Crawford farm, has been busy this week getting settled. He will occupy the Pennepacker residence now owned by T. L. Pilger until he has made further arrangements on the farm.

Editor Brown says that the Times prints stationery cheaper than its contemporaries can buy the material. We suppose it must be so, because we both buy our stationery of the same house.

Carpets! Carpets! Next week I shall have a full line of Samples of the latest pattern of carpets, rugs, lace chenille curtain, window shades etc Price to suit everybody. Call and inspect them. E. H. WATKINSON.

The masquerade ball to be given at the opera hall by the Loup City Junior Orchestra promises to be the best of the season. The boys have made all necessary arrangements for a large crowd. The ball opens promptly at 8:30 on Wednesday night, March 17th. Admission: Gentlemen 50 cents, Ladies in costume free. Lady spectators 25 cents.

The public sale of Isaac Sandberg which took place last Tuesday at the Sandberg stock farm near Schaupp Sid-ing is reported to be a great success. About 500 people were present and everything sold high. Milch cows sold for \$88, young calves for 9.00 and a double work harness which Isaac bought at the F. Rickert sale eight years ago for 18.00 was resold for 17.50. Jacob Albers cried the sale and everything was pleasant and agreeable.

The Ravenna News says that the Times-Independent printed the story about "Tracy and the Rabbit to mislead us so that we would get it into our early history. From this it would seem that editor Cass does not know the difference between an early history and a history of more recent events. We suggest that if the Ravenna schools which Cass praises up so much cannot teach him more about history than he seems to know at present, that he should come over and take a course in the primary department of the Loup City schools. The tuition fee is only a dollar a month.

Chas Rollins fired the U. P. engine last week during the absence of Frank Perdue.

Mrs. Harriett Snyder went to Wheaton, Tuesday morning to attend the funeral of her daughter.

No ONE DIES No one dies of Pulmonary disease, the result of cold, who takes "77" in time. For sale by all druggists. 25 cents.

A very pleasant dance was given at the new store building of John H Travis last Tuesday night. Judge Wall was seen among the young folks tripping the fantastic toe.

The article on irrigation which appeared in this paper last week was written by Carsten Truelsen but through oversight proper credit was not given. Mr. Truelsen has had considerable experience in irrigation and has obtained good results from the use of water from the ditch. The article contained some very good suggestions on the subject and we are sorry that we made the error.

The Times said that C. J. Tracy charmed and caught a jack rabbit. The Ravenna News said it didn't believe it and asked for further proof. The Times called the News a liar and said it didn't have to, whereupon the News got read headed and come at THE NORTH-WESTERN with nothing but malice aforethought in its bosom, and all this time Tracy was getting a lot of free advertising that he ought to have been charged the regular rates for. Now then, suppose Tracy did catch the jack rabbit. What of it? Is that any reason why these two journals should establish free advertising rates and compel other to follow suit or go out of business? We do not know under what circumstances Tracy caught the rabbit, but we conclude that he had a perfect right to do so. One thing certain Tracy should pay for the advertising and a good fat check ought to settle the dispute.

#### Comfort To California.

Every Tuesday evening, a tourist sleeping car for Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Los Angeles leaves Omaha and Lincoln via the Burlington Route.

It is carpeted; upholstered in rattan; has spring seats and backs and is provided with curtains, bedding, towels, soap ets. An experienced excursion conductor and a uniformed Pullman porter accompany it through to the Pacific coast.

While neither as expensively finished nor as fine to look at as a sleeper, it is just as good to ride in. Second class tickets are honored and the price of a berth, wide enough and big enough for two, is very reasonable.

For further information see A. F. WERTS, B & M Agent.

First class Photographs only 75 cents per doz. Don't miss to get one or two dozen.

#### Something for Nothing.

In addition to giving two papers each week the Semi-Weekly State Journal now gives to each person sending \$1.00 a free premium. You can have your choice of the Toledo Blade or New York Tribune. Or you can have two of these papers free. Poultry News, Swine Breeder Farm News and Womankind. Hundreds of other free premiums such as a splendid Atlas, State Journal Almanac, United States History etc. Send Postal card request for premium list. You should read the Journal during the legislature no matter what other paper you read at other times. You must send your money direct to the State Journal, Lincoln Nebraska to get any of these free premiums.

Strawberries! Strawberries!

Strawberry Plants

AND ALL KINDS

of Fruit Trees

SOLE BY

F. E. Brewer.

LOUP CITY, I. NEB.

#### FACTS CONCERNING

### THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF SHERMAN COUNTY.

Continued from last week.

#### THE FIRST MURDER.

The first murder in the county was committed in the winter of 1876, by George McKeller, a one legged man who lived with his father and mother just south of Arcadia. Edward Chapman was the victim of the awful crime. The murder was committed at Loup City and the citizens were greatly horrified when the news was heard. No such occurrence had ever happened to disturb our settlers and it was shocking in the extreme.

Chapman used to live up the river on the opposite and west side from McKeller's and it seems that there had been some difference between them in a settlement at one time, in which McKeller claimed a balance due him of \$3.00 or \$4.00. Chapman afterward moved to Loup City and started a blacksmith shop.

On the date above mentioned McKeller rode into town and tying his horse to a hitching post went into a grocery, a little shanty located just south of the Round Front Barn. He sat in the back room playing cards

when Chapman entered the store for the purpose of buying some tea for supper. When he asked for the tea McKeller heard his voice and knew who he was. He immediately sprang from the card table and with an oath leveled his revolver at his victim and fired. The ball took effect in the abdomen, passed through the bladder and lodged. Chapman lived about 48 hours and suffered untold agony.

Before the astonished crowd could do anything McKeller rushed out, mounted his horse and rode away. He was headed towards home. He was followed in hot pursuit, but as he had a race horse, soon left his pursuers far behind. An unsuccessful attempt was made to shoot his horse from under him.

As soon as possible Sheriff R. J. Brown, with several deputies went to the McKeller farm and searched. The horse that he had been riding was here, but no George McKeller. Being satisfied that he was in hiding not far away, they stayed there for three or four days. The weather was bitter cold and it seemed impossible for him to go far with his wooden leg.

McKeller's father and mother were arrested, charged with having secreted the murderer, and brought to the county seat for trial but no evidence could be found to substantiate the charge. The arrest was made however, for the purpose of frightening the old folks into a confession as to their knowledge of their sons whereabouts but no pressure could be brought to bear sufficient to accomplish the purpose, and accordingly they were released.

Finally they gave up the search and the county offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of the murderer, the state also offered a reward of \$200.

A few days after this his father brought him to town, delivered him to the Sheriff and claimed the reward which he afterward got.

He was tried in the spring of 1877 at the first term of district court ever held in Sherman county, by Judge Gashin. The jury brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree and he was sentenced to the penitentiary for life where he died some seven years ago. It is not known to this day where McKeller secreted himself.

Mr. Chapman was an old soldier. He was buried in the Loup City grave yard east of town and afterwards removed to the Evergreen cemetery, and he it said to the honor and credit of the G. A. R. Post of this city, his grave has been strewn with flowers every year as Decoration Day comes on.

The McKeller family moved away a few years ago and it is said that the old lady received the news of her son's death at the penitentiary and also the news that she had fell heir to a large fortune, both on the same day.

#### JUDGE WALL'S PERILOUS ADVENTURE WITH THE OLIVE GANG.

In the month of April 1878 Jim Roberts, then residing on Beaver Creek was arrested by the Olive gang for stealing cattle. The warrant was sworn out in Capt. Hutchinson's court, a Justice of the Peace who also lived in that locality. The prisoner was brought into court and Judge Wall was employed as council for the defense. At first the gang tried to keep Wall out of the court room. But finally he managed to get in and demanded to see the Justice's docket. The Justice refused to comply with the demand and his decision was heartily concurred in by the persecutors who stood around with cocked revolvers in their hands. Not being able to get a fair hearing, Mr. Wall hit upon another plan of defense. He told the court and all concerned that if he might be allowed to talk with the prisoner for a few minutes he would go away and leave them.

The gang was so anxious to get Wall out of the way that they consented and accordingly the client and his attorney was in consultation for about a half hour.

They had repaired to a point near the barn and where Mr. Wall had his team hitched to a buggy. While they were talking the gang stood guard with weapons in hand. After a time the guards became more careless, and when an opportunity offered the two would plan for their escape. At a sign from Wall, Roberts was to jump into the buggy and gather up the lines, and Wall was to cut the horses loose. Whenever the guards were close at hand they would be talking about the case.

Finally the chance came, the sign was given and before the astonished guards could realize it, the two were on their way to Loup City as fast as high spirited animals could take them. They reached the village in safety. The gang followed in hot pursuit but were left so far behind that it was thought they had given up the chase.

But not so, Wall and Roberts had just got their team unhitched and got into the house, when Mrs. Roberts drove in from the Roberts ranch and brought the news that Bob Olive and his cowboys were coming.

They had with them a warrant from Hutchinson's Court, for the arrest of Wall, and proposed to take him back for trial.

Wall had just examined his revolver and laid it on the table when he heard a very gentle rap at the door. He went to the door and met a man whom he had never seen before and who was not in the Olive gang at the Hutchinson court room. This man requested a minutes conversation. Mr. Wall stepped out and was immediately surrounded by the whole gang. All chance of escape was cut off and he saw the glittering steel of five revolvers all leveled at his head: They proposed taking him at once but not one of the five had the courage to make the attempt.

A large share of the afternoon was spent in trying to capture him. During which time many of the citizens gathered about.

Mr. Wall said, "If I go with you I will not get a fair trial." He called them a band of outlaws, told them they were cowards, and if they killed him they would have the deed to answer for, as he was not the only Wall on earth. He also told them that if they would lay down their arms, he would take one at a time and "lick" the whole outfit, or, if they would give him a chance to get his revolver from the inside he would give them a round with the weapons.

All this time Wall was standing with his back against the building, and facing his would-be-captors. He had nothing but a penknife in his hand and was whittling a stick. His remarks so enraged the gang that they attempted to throw a rope over his head, but each time the attempt was unsuccessful. On one occasion one of them tried to take hold of him but Mr. Wall struck him with the knife and with an upward stroke cut his vest open from bottom to top. Mr. Wall appealed to the citizens for help and in response John Swain, son-in-law of J. C. Fletcher and who had just come to this country in search of a location in the west, stepped up and offered to defend him with his life. The revolvers were instantly leveled at Swain's head but he did not give an inch. He walked up to where Mr. Wall was standing and defied them to do their worst.

Finally Mr. Wall agreed to go with them if an officer of Sherman County and a sufficient number of citizens to protect him would go along and suggested that they all repair to the court room, then located upstairs to the main building of the Massasoit House.

To this they all consented and a messenger was dispatched for deputy Sheriff Reuben French. Mr. Wall was county judge at the time and while waiting for the deputy sheriff pretended to engage himself with some unfinished business of his office. He filled out some blanks and

attached the county seal thereto. This was done for the purpose of keeping the heavy seal within his reach, it being his only weapon of defense. When the Sheriff came in the Judge said, "Mr. Sheriff I command you to call court" and the officer at once complied with the command. After dispatching another messenger for Martin Brumbaugh, which he did on the quiet, the Judge commanded the officer to arrest the entire Olive gang, for contempt of court. French attempted the arrest but the outlaws leveled their revolvers at him and he weakened. The gang began to get desperate again: They said, "Why don't we take him?" and that he must go with them, to which Mr. Wall replied "County Court is in session and I cannot leave."

Mr. Wall's object was to delay matters and give time for Brumbaugh and more citizens to get there. During the interval two young men by the name of Stringer were here, and it seems had received some favors from Mr. Wall which was not so soon forgotten. One of them went up to the judge's bench and without being seen slipped a good revolver into the Judge's pocket. John Harkins came in with a sledge hammer in his hand which he had been working with. John did not intend to use it however, but the sight of it had a quieting effect upon the outlaws.

"Mart" Brumbaugh arrived in due time. He was as white as a ghost and with a voice that roared like thunder, rushed into the room and shouted, "What's the matter here?"

The Judge said, "I deputize you as officer of this court and command you to arrest these men and disarm them for contempt." "Here," said Wall "is my revolver" and to the astonishment of all present he laid it on the table. Brumbaugh picked up the weapon with his right hand and with his left he grabbed Bob Olive by the throat and said, "you are my prisoner."

This unexpected occurrence completely unnerved the outlaws and they were all arrested, brought before, Judge Wall himself and fined for contempt of court. Olive was fined thirty dollars, one of the others twenty dollars, and the other three ten dollars each. They did not pay their fines, however, but agreed to do so soon if they might be allowed to go. It was agreed upon and they left the town.

These fines stand against them unpaid on the Judge's Dockets of Sherman county today. During the engagement of Wall with the Olive gang Roberts remained in the house with his wife and Wall's family and most of the time was up stairs in hiding. It is needless to say that the occurrence very much frightened Mrs. Wall and Mrs. Roberts and that the strain upon Mr. Wall was something terrible. Fully five hours was consumed in the affair and it would often occur that one of the gang with a deathly pallor on his face would raise his weapon and take steady aim.

Continued next week.

# The Golden OPPORTUNITY

—of the season—

AT PILGERS'

LOUP CITY, - - NEB.

RARE BARGAINS IN Groceries, Dry Goods, Shoes

and everything kept in a first class store.

All goods sold for cash only

20 lbs Granulated sugar for	\$1.00
26 " New Orleans " "	1.00
Kerosene oil, per gal. - - -	.12
All package Coffee - - -	.15
Eight bar any kind of soap	.25
Three cans corn or tomatoes	.25
Arcadia Bakers' Fancy flour	
" Cream Patent "	
Corn meal - - - - -	.15
Choice prunes, 20 lbs for	1.00
Extra choice prunes, 13 lbs	1.00
Best oat meal, 8 lbs for -	.25
Four lbs choice raisins for	.25
Apples per bushel - - -	.75

Highest Price Paid for Butter and Eggs.

Don't fail to come and get bargains in every line.

T. L. PILGER,  
NEW YORK STORE  
Loup City, : Neb.