



EUGENE MUNN.

Eugene Munn, president of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance company of Nebraska, is one of the pioneers of Nebraska. He came to the state in 1856, and for nine years was engaged as wagon master for a large freighting firm, Russell, Majors & Co., and their successors. He crossed the plains as often as five times in a single year and was mixed up in Indian scraps innumerable. He was among the earliest settlers and has helped to build up this state from its wild prairies to its present high state of cultivation.

In 1870 Mr. Munn was nominated for the legislature by a mass convention of Otoe county citizens. He was re-elected to the house in 1874 and again in 1884. For four years he has been president of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance company of Nebraska, the largest mutual fire insurance company in the state, and the largest mutual company insuring farm property against fire, lightning, wind storm and tornado in the United States, with headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mr. Munn was born in East Union, Ohio, in 1836, where he resided until he was eighteen years of age, when he came west and settled in Otoe county, Nebraska, and engaged in farming and stock growing. From there he moved to Lancaster county with his family in 1894, settling at University Place. He was married in 1867 to Miss Mary D. Kling, of Ohio. Eight sons compose the family. The eldest, A. M. Munn, is manager of an independent telephone company of Nebraska City, and has also been city engineer for a number of years at that place.

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lime and with the cork out float it away on the water at the point from which the drowned person entered the water. True as an arrow the jug will dance along over the ripples until it stands directly over the sunken body. Then it will burst and up will come the corpse unless it is anchored in the sand or mud. If by chance the first jug fails try another. If both fail lack of faith is the only plausible reason to be assigned.

A perverse genii of death lurks in every deadly weapon, particularly in shotguns. If they refuse to go off when you pull the trigger they will act later. That was the case with a girl of Bloomfield recently. Melissa Baysinger was her name. With her brother she went to the hayfield and with them they took the old muzzle loading shotgun. They knew of a few ducks on the pond, for whose sleek sides in gravy they yearned. Noticing that some of the hay in stack had been stolen the girl raised the weapon and pointed it at the fancied thieves. "I wish I could do this to them," she said and pulled the triggers. Neither worked. Then she looked into the barrel and was greeted with a charge of shot that severed her windpipe, killing her instantly.

Is the wife crafty or the husband stupid? A Grand Island man has been in the wicked habit of scolding at his wife for making shirts he said would not fit. Every day he had a reproachful remark to settle in her ear. Of course it wasn't pleasant for her. Why didn't she learn to cut and sew when she was a girl? he would ask among other more sarcastic things. Finally she told him she would send his shirt making elsewhere. He knew of a woman who had a good reputation with the needle and thread and she would do the work for twenty-five cents per shirt. Good enough, said the husband. He gave the two-cent pieces to his wife to pay t

man, all with much frequency. "Now why couldn't you make a shirt as neat and fine as this?" he would ask pityingly and his wife would look correspondingly dejected. By herself and with her close friends she would laugh and give the wink. She was making the shirts all her own self and not only was she pleasing her husband but she was drawing soda water money on the side.

Evil luck certainly comes by regiments. L. R. Hoag can tell of it. He is an auctioneer of Shickley, Fillmore county. His era of awkward fortune came several weeks ago when he was obliged to be operated on for the removal of a tumor. No sooner had he recovered from this than members of his family took down with smallpox. He has been confined at home now for quite a while and consequently has lost many excellent springtime dates as auctioneer. The latest piece of ill befell him when he climbed to the top of his windmill the other day to give it some oil. The wind was stout and it whirled the wheel against him. Down he fell, a distance of thirty feet. He was carried into the house with a broken arm and other severe contusions. Job, it appears, was a man of numerous blessings.

Twenty-five years ago now a fierce snow storm rushed down upon the people of Thayer county and among other things it blew a herd of fifty huddled antelope almost within the borders of Hebron. The snow was so deep they could not run away and a number of men on horseback sallied forth and caught twenty-five of them alive. Now the common person of Hebron would fall dead of fright at sight of one of these animals.

S. C. Purdy, a druggist of Clarks, lost several fine features of countenance the other day at his electric cigar lighter. He was filling the bulb with gasoline when he moved it in a way to strike fire to its wick in regular order. It flashed the gasoline into

his face and left his fine moustache, eye lashes, brows and hair mere bitterly odorous ashes. A doctor was quickly at hand to apply soothing lotions to his burnt complexion but alack for his moustache and his brows!

Smart Irishman! He lives in Platte county, according to the Columbus Times and this is what he did. He was digging a well. When he had projected it down about twenty feet it caved in. He didn't think it a pastime to dig it all out again. So he be-thought himself. Hanging his coat and hat on the windlass he hid behind some friendly bushes. Presently a pedestrian discovered the apparel and the fact that the well had caved in. He fairly tore in his mad effort to get help in shoveling out the dirt. Soon a crowd gathered round and in it was the weeping wife of the well digger. When all the dirt had been removed and no body found the consternation was relieved by the appearance of the Irishman from behind the bushes, yawning as if he had been deep in sleep un-mindful of the proceedings. The pretension of sleep was all that saved him from being strung up to his own windlass.

The little boy rode on the old cow's horns and lives to tell the tale. He is the very young son of Mr. and Mrs. Milt Vierson of Pilger. The youthful adventurer strolled into the cow lot and feeling drawn to the milk provider strode forward to stroke her ears. Hardly had he put his hand forward when she ducked and caught him good. His little body was taken fairly be-

tween her horns or would have been gored and when he struck ground again he was in the rear of bossy. She showed no wish to follow her lead and he regained his feet as quickly as possible and made for the gate. The frantic mother coming to the rescue had seen the boy bolted over the cow's back and fainted before she could reach the gate.

The benefits of organization have appealed to the threshers of Butler county. Forty-four out of the forty-seven of them have banded themselves together under what they call the Threshers' National Protective association. Once a month they will meet and talk over the situation, dissect each other's grievances and set about to apply the remedy. Before the end of the present month they will establish prices for the season's work and in every case abide by them. The farmer who wants his work done for less will have to do it himself or draft a non-union thresher.

The real vicious character of the opposition of a dog to wheeling was illustrated in Colfax county recently. Albert Herbison was enjoying a spin in the country when a sedate canine suddenly plunged for his leg as he passed. It got a fine hold in the fleshy part and tugged the boy from his seat. That was all the dog seemed to want. Picking himself up the boy hobbled to his father's office. As he rolled down his trousers a gaping wound was disclosed and a piece of flesh as big as a hen's egg clung to the garment.



JAMES A. O'SHEE.

James A. O'Shee, who will next week go south to superintend as contractor the construction of 170 miles of bridge work on the line of the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad, has been prominent in bridge contracting work in Lincoln for the past twenty years. During this time he has been employed by most of the leading railway lines in the country.

He has been identified with the bridge construction department of the Burlington for the past twenty years. In addition he has been connected with the mechanical departments of the Union Pacific, the Rock Island, the Kansas City, Springfield & Memphis, the Kansas City & Southern, and the Missouri Pacific. With all of these lines he has been intrusted with heavy and important contracts.

Mr. O'Shee was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1856. He first came to Cass county with his parents in 1871. A year later the family removed to Lincoln, where Mr. O'Shee has since resided.

After one year with Shepardson & Neville he was placed in charge of all their bridge building. This position he held for six years. He was connected with various firms before going into the contracting business on his own account.

For four years, 1891-1895, he represented the First ward in the city council. He also served four years in the democratic state central committee, besides being prominent in the congressional and presidential campaigns of Mr. Bryan.

In October, 1900, Mr. O'Shee married Miss May Flanigan of Henrietta, Texas. The bride formerly lived in Lincoln and was prominent in musical and social circles.

During his business career, Mr. O'Shee has handled some of the heaviest contracts in the west. He leaves next week to undertake one of the largest jobs ever let to a Nebraska contractor.

Lincoln contributes one of its first families in this move to Oklahoma, inasmuch as Mr. and Mrs. O'Shee will take up their residence in Guthrie. The subject of this sketch has been prominent in political affairs, while his wife has been influential in the social life of the city. For four years he was an active member of the city council and did much to promote the city's welfare by his watchfulness and energy in the municipality's behalf.