

40 YEARS A HERMIT "UNCLE JOHNNIE" DIES

QUAINT OLD CHARACTER OF YEL- LOW BANKS SUCCEUMBS.

LIVED ALL ALONE IN WOODS

John McKirahan, Who Settled All Alone in the Yellow Banks Many Years Ago, Dies at Foster—Funeral Will be Held Under the Big Elm.

Foster, Neb., Aug. 21.—Special to The News: John McKirahan, for forty years known as "Uncle Johnnie, hermit of the Yellow Banks," died here today at the home of Eugene Crook, the Foster banker, at whose home he had been for a year. He was an uncle to Mrs. Crook.

"Uncle Johnnie" owned the land on which the Yellow Banks are located, thirteen miles northwest of Norfolk. He settled there in the woods, on the bank of the Elkhorn, almost a half century ago and lived alone until settlers invaded.

Mr. McKirahan would have been eighty years of age next March. He had been feeble for some time and was tenderly cared for in the Crook home.

Pathetic Funeral Under Old Elm.

There will be a touch of pathos in the funeral of John McKirahan, which will be held Saturday morning at 10 o'clock beneath the "Big Elm" at the Yellow Banks—the monster old tree near which this man settled in the days of the Indians and under whose protecting branches he lived in his own peculiar way, all alone, for more than two score summers and winters. There beneath the old elm the funeral services will be held. Burial will be in Jackson's cemetery, near by.

First Treasurer of Cuming County. John McKirahan was the first treasurer of Cuming county, Neb. He came to Omaha in 1857 and to West Point in 1858. In 1862 he settled all alone in the Yellow Banks to live the life of the hermit in the woods and wilderness. He was born in Ohio.

In an early Indian raid he lost everything he had, the redmen taking everything they could get their hands on.

"Romance" Was Pure Fiction.

There used to be a tale that McKirahan had been disappointed in love and that that was why he chose a hermit's existence. Relatives say this was pure fiction.

FRIDAY FACTS.

Miss Erna Wilde went to Pirce Friday.

Mrs. E. F. Stear has gone to Chicago.

Ray Munsterman went to Omaha at noon.

Miss Lulu Cronk went to Gregory at noon.

Peter Stafford will go to Tilden this evening.

Dr. G. A. Young went to Omaha Friday noon.

Mrs. J. S. Smith went to Dallas Friday noon.

M. D. Tyler was in Wayne yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Brown of Stanton was in the city Friday.

Mrs. Cyphers, son and daughter, of Valentine arrived at noon to be the guest of Mrs. J. P. Pfunder for several days.

Miss Harriett Mather returned from Madison Friday.

J. C. Larkin went to Winnetoon Friday morning.

T. C. Cantwell returned from Lincoln last evening.

Miss Lee Hale of Atkinson was in the city yesterday.

L. W. Abernathy of Lynch was in the city yesterday.

Mrs. Joseph Schwartz returned from Omaha last evening.

Fred Remondor of near Bayard was in the city yesterday.

Judge Eiseley left yesterday for a short visit at Anoka.

Miss Margaret Hamilton went to Pierce this morning.

Mrs. William Degner of Hadar was in the city yesterday.

Mrs. William Eckers of Hoskins was in the city yesterday.

Miss Mary Mason of Wayne is visiting Mrs. L. M. Beeler.

Miss Belle Duphey of Battle Creek was in the city Friday.

Miss Stella Strik of Battle Creek is visiting friends in the city.

Mrs. A. O. Hazen is visiting friends in Madison for a few days.

Mrs. A. W. Barge is visiting at the home of W. J. Weatherholt.

Presiding Elder Thomas Bithell went to Plainville yesterday.

Mrs. Rose Sheets of Meadow Grove is visiting Mrs. E. H. Brewer.

Mrs. John Krantz and son, Earl, went to Osmond Thursday to visit relatives.

John Bohm of Sioux City is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Schor-esteg.

Miss Nell Evans of Columbus is visiting Mrs. W. F. Hall for a few days.

Misses Madeline Stein and Clara Anderson went to Thayer Friday noon.

W. E. Reed of Madison was in Norfolk yesterday afternoon on his way to Spencer.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Pofahl and daughter of Albany, N. Y., are visiting relatives in the city.

Mrs. Napier of Clearwater, who has been visiting her son, John Napier, returned home Friday noon.

Miss Nora Kutler, who has been

visiting Miss Ethel Vail, returned to Buffalo Gap Wednesday evening.

Misses Ethel and Margaret Pearce returned to Scotta Thursday after a short visit at the home of T. C. Cantwell.

Mrs. A. A. Harper and daughter, Miss Myrtle Harper, went to Butte Thursday for a ten days' visit with friends.

Mrs. J. L. Weaver and daughters will return Friday evening from Armour, S. D., after a few weeks' visit with relatives.

Father Schlier of Sioux City, who was the guest of Father Walsh for several days this week, went to Omaha at noon.

Charles Schram and daughter, Miss Minnie Schram, returned Thursday from St. Paul, Minn., after a short visit with relatives.

W. W. Quivey of Pierce, one of the candidates for the Republican nomination for county attorney in Pierce county, was in Norfolk yesterday.

Marshal Kennedy of Madison was in Norfolk yesterday in connection with a visit to Neligh to testify in the trial of a young man charged with stealing a suit case.

Miss Bertha Richardson of Battle Creek, who was visiting Miss Harriett Mather, has gone to Seattle, Wash. Miss Richardson is a sister of County Clerk Richardson of Madison.

E. O. Garrett, one of the three Democratic candidates for the nomination for lieutenant governor, was in Norfolk yesterday, taking the afternoon train up the Bonesteel line.

Among the day's out of town visitors in Norfolk were: J. C. Ecker, Winside; Mrs. S. J. Doyle, Madison; Miss Neva Ellwood, Creighton; N. O. Gorman, Hartington; F. M. Gillilan, Wausau; H. Olson, Bloomfield; J. Houzveka, Verdigre; Peter Nisson, Plainville.

Dr. A. Bear, who was quite ill, is able to be at his office again.

Archie Gow is taking his annual vacation from the Nebraska National bank for a week.

Miss Regina McGahn has returned to her position in the A. L. Killian store after a ten days' vacation.

Burt Mapes has been bedfast for a number of days as the result of burns accidentally sustained from contact with carbolic acid.

Oscar Fechner, while riding a bicycle on South Fourth street Thursday, ran into a curbing and was thrown to the sidewalk, severely spraining his knee.

The Norfolk Long Distance Telephone company has made connections with the Tilden and Meadow Grove Telephone companies giving them access to all the subscribers of Tilden and Meadow Grove.

Little Francis Kent, the boy whose bare feet were in the path of a mower driven by his father, will have his feet saved. The foot, which was entirely severed save for a little piece of flesh in the back part of the foot, is healing.

The Congregational church and Sunday school will hold their annual picnic next Tuesday in the country, arriving home early enough in the evening to have supper on the lawn of Col. S. S. Cotton's home.

Fred Hardy, a cousin of H. E. Hardy of this city, is a resident of Eureka, Cal., where the recent earthquake took place. No word, as yet, has been received as to whether he or his wife suffered from the disaster.

C. L. Anderson of Norfolk has been picked as one of the fifteen men who will represent the state of Nebraska in the national tournament held at Camp Perry, Ohio. Mr. Anderson's selection is a high honor as the delegates to the national shoot must show their superior marksmanship over all other militia men of the state.

Paul S. Dietrick, office secretary of the state Sunday school association was in the city yesterday enroute to Madison, where he will speak at the institute. Mr. Dietrick will assist in conducting the Stanton county district Sunday school convention which is soon to be held at Bega, south of Hoskins.

The Leroy S. Angel bankruptcy case, in which Judge Matt Miller sought an order on the bankruptcy party for about \$5,000 for his client, the Charles H. Brown company of Omaha, was tried before Referee E. P. Weatherly. The order was granted.

Stanton next month is to entertain one of the biggest and most important of Nebraska conventions, the north state conference of the Methodist church. The conference meets in Stanton beginning September 22. Bishop McIntyre, one of America's most noted platform orators, will be one of the speakers, delivering his address on "Buttressed Up People."

Norfolk will probably lose Dr. Thomas Bithell, presiding elder of the Neligh district, with the coming conference, Dr. Bithell having served out the period which the practice of the Methodist church gives a presiding elder in any one district. The conference will accordingly receive the appointment of a new elder. Dr. Bithell has done most effective work.

Preshe is Part of Tripp County.

Lanro, S. D., Aug. 21.—Special to The News: The booklet of information recently published by the Northwestern railroad contains a map showing the old Preshe county lying north of Tripp county and south of the White river, when in fact, it is now a part of Tripp county and will be open for settlement. The map was taken from an old government plat instead of the later one.

Is a buyer for your property the most elusive man in the city? Want ads. find "Elusive People."

NORFOLK WILL SEE MANY BEAUTIFUL GOWNS

MISS MALATESTA, WHO COMES SEPTEMBER 1, WEARS 'EM.

When the curtain goes up at the Auditorium on the presentation of the "Royal Chef," Tuesday evening September 1, Norfolk will be treated to some of the handsomest creations in fashions and styles that have been seen in many a day.

Miss Malatesta's gowns came direct from Paris, where they were secured by Harry H. France while over there. One of Miss Malatesta's creations is a beautiful gown of orange pompadour silk. The sleeves are made of white chiffon pleated, and around the top of the bodice are two ruffles of white chiffon, trimmed with narrow rows of orange velvet.

All around the top of the bodice are folds of orange velvet. The skirt is ornamented with hand-made yellow chiffon roses. A large white chiffon mull and shoulder boa, made of several rows of the chiffon accented plaited, are carried. A crushed garble of orange chiffon velvet is worn on the dress and the waist is trimmed with pearl ornaments. The hat is of orange velvet and cream lace.

"I am proud of the fact that my gowns in this production are absolute models and not copies of anything that has been seen before," says Miss Malatesta. "There is something in originality when it is shown in dresses which is bound to be attractive to the public eye. Of course everyone likes to see a well dressed woman, and when one goes to see as handsome a production as 'The Royal Chef' one naturally expects to see the very finest creations of the modiste's art."

The entire company, which is conspicuous for merit, is the only and original organization that appeared for four months at the Lyric theater, New York, and will be seen here complete in every detail.

Deuel Farmer Suffers.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 21.—Special to The News: The fates certainly are unkind to John McCaskie, a prominent farmer residing in Deuel county. Worked and a number of employees worked unusually hard to get his crop out of danger from hail storms and rust. His threshing had been pushed as rapidly as possible and completed, and all of his grain stored in his barn when the structure was set on fire by lightning and completely destroyed.

Every bushel of his newly threshed grain was destroyed, and in addition much other valuable property, including several head of horses and cattle, was consumed by the flames.

McCaskie estimates that the fire caused him damage to the amount of about \$4,000. As an offset to this he had insurance in the sum of only \$1,200, making his net loss a heavy one.

RINGLING CIRCUS HERE NEXT MONTH

GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH COMING TO NORFOLK.

BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 18 AND 25

The First Advance Man for Ringlings' Circus Was in Norfolk Friday Morning, Making Preliminary Arrangements for the Big Show.

Ringling Bros.' circus—greatest on earth—will be in Norfolk between September 18 and 25.

The first advance man was in the city Friday morning, making arrangements for the show, which will come from Sioux City.

This will be the first visit of Ringlings to Norfolk in a long period of years. Barnum's was here last year in September.

NORFOLK PLAYS AT NELIGH

Two Important Games Are Before Norfolk at Neligh Races.

The Norfolk base ball team has an important place on the schedule of the tournament held in connection with the race meet at Neligh this week on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The base ball tournament before the Neligh races had been postponed a day, had Oakdale and Brunswick scheduled for a game Tuesday, Norfolk and O'Neill for Wednesday, and Norfolk and Oakdale game for Thursday. The Norfolk-O'Neill game will be played Wednesday but it was not known to day just how the rest of the ball schedule would be rearranged.

The purses will be for \$60, winners to take sixty per cent.

You never spent too much for a thing after having read the ads carefully.

Stores that "Hide their Lights" soon hide themselves altogether.

AUTOS SPEED ON THE ROSEBUD

Fighting for Dallas-Lamro Record—A Buick Holds It at Present.

Lamro, S. D., Aug. 21.—Special to The News: Lamro is a mecca for automobilists and the drivers vie in making a new record from Dallas, a distance of twenty-four miles.

Dallas is the railroad terminal. The landseekers, who fill the autos, all desire to be taken into Tripp county and the run from Dallas to Lamro is the beaten path into the heart of Tripp county.

The record is now held by a Buick machine in an hour and ten minutes. It carried five passengers.

RECEIPT IS RELIC OF ROAD AGENTS' DAY

RELIC OF A \$6.00 ROBBERY OF GOVERNMENT CASH.

ON STAGE TO FORT NIOBRARA.

Jere Fincher, Agent at Chadron in the Elkhorn Days. Now Living in the Black Hills, Has Interesting Relic of Road Agent Days.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 21.—Special to The News: Jere Fincher, a well known resident of the Black Hills, has an interesting relic of the days when road agents carried on their operations in the Black Hills and western Nebraska. The relic is an express agent's receipt for the sum of a little more than \$6,200.

The receipt is now discolored and otherwise time worn, but nevertheless it is considered one of the most valuable curios in Mr. Fincher's collection. There is an interesting story in connection with the receipt. In 1886—twenty-two years ago—Mr. Fincher was stationed at Chadron, Neb., as agent for the Northwestern railroad. One day the Wells-Fargo Express company had a shipment of government cash, which was destined for Fort Niobrara to pay the soldiers stationed at that post.

The shipment had to be shipped from Chadron to the post by stage, but it never reached its destination, for the stage driver was held up and relieved of the cash, which consisted of a trifle over \$6,000 in currency and a little more than \$200 in silver coin.

The thief was never apprehended and none of the money ever recovered but the agent's receipt which went with the shipment was found, and it is this which now is in possession of the Black Hills man.

Brakeman Pays Under Protest.

Fremont Tribune: Although he made a settlement by paying the claim Thomas B. Downey does not intend to drop the case which was brought against him by the National Accident Insurance company. Downey was charged with embezzling \$18 which he had collected for a policy. He says he never collected the money and there is no foundation for the claim against him, but that rather than be prosecuted under the complaint, he concluded to pay it under protest. Downey is a brakeman on the Northwestern and has been running out of Fremont. He was formerly an insurance agent.

Rides Through Barbwire Fence.

Winside, Neb., Aug. 21.—Andrew Anderson, a farmer, met with a very painful and peculiar accident. He was riding a horse which became frightened and ran away. The animal dashed through a barbwire fence and the wire got Anderson's leg in such a way that before the horse was stopped Anderson's leg was sawed to the bone.

SCHOOLS DAYS ARE AROUND THE CORNER

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES TO BUILDINGS ANNOUNCED.

EXAMINATIONS NEXT WEEK.

School Bells in Norfolk Will Ring the First Day of September—Grade Rooms Have Been Picked for Coming Year—Teachers Come Next.

Johnnie tossed in his sleep last night. He cut his little sister in the morning. Towards noon he heaved a brick at a neighbor's dog. But in all this there was no pleasure for Johnny. In his sleep he had heard a school bell ringing. But that was not all, Johnny was a realist and he knew well enough that that school bell was going to ring "for sure" in nine swift passing days.

Next week is the last of the glad-some vacation time. A week from Monday school starts. The first day of September is the first day of school.

Two dire warnings of the prospective opening have been issued. One is a simple statement of the assignment

\$16,500 IN PRIZES GIVEN AWAY FREE FOR CORRECT SOLUTIONS TO THE PUZZLE BELOW

THE line of Pianos carried by The Bennett Co. is of such a high degree of excellence, and the various makes so well and favorably known, that their names are already household words in the majority of homes in Nebraska and neighboring states, but in order that all may become familiar with the fact that the greatest line of high-grade Pianos in the West is to be found in our warehouses, and in order to obtain a large and comprehensive list of prospective purchasers of Pianos and Organs to whom we may present the merits of our instruments and explain our equitable selling system, we have inaugurated a contest which we believe to be the most interesting, and at the same time the most liberal ever attempted by any Piano house.

THE CONTEST

Printed in the coupon below you will find a Puzzle Automobile Wheel, around the tire of which we have placed the letters which form the names of some of the different makes of Pianos set on record. We want you to rearrange these letters correctly and write the names which the letters form in the places left for that purpose between the spokes of the wheel. In order that you may easily understand how to do it, we have completed one answer. Study the puzzle carefully, also the arrangement of the word PACKARD, and you will have little trouble in completing the rest of the answers.

- THE RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST
Are very simple and will be easily understood. They must be strictly complied with, however.
1. The contest is open to all, except employees of The Bennett Company or persons connected with other music houses.
2. The correct names and addresses of 4 prospective purchasers of Pianos or Organs MUST be written in the spaces provided for that purpose in the wheel. Exercise great care in sending in these names, for, as explained above, the principal object of this contest is to enable us to widen the scope of our operations and get in touch with those who are now, or may be later on, in the market for a piano.
3. The contest will extend over a period of 30 days, beginning August 21st and ending September 19th, and prizes will be awarded and the winners announced as soon as possible after the closing of the contest.
4. No contestant may send in more than one solution.
5. In order that all may have equal chances of obtaining an award, the prizes will be distributed as explained below.

THE PRIZES
1 Louis XV Grand Piano... Value \$1,400
1 Magnificent Art Grand Piano... Value 1,000
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 650
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 600
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 575
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 550
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 525
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 450
1 Upright Cabinet Grand Piano... Value 400
1 Mahogany Upright Piano... Value 350
And other Prizes amounting to \$10,000 in Cash and Credit Certificates.

CONTEST CLOSSES POSITIVELY ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, AT 4:30 P. M.

THE BENNETT COMPANY'S LINE OF PIANOS
A large circular graphic with piano models and text: 'Cut off at this dotted line and mail as instructed below.' Includes 'Art Model Grand Piano' and 'One of the Ten Pianos' labels.

Name _____
Address _____
Street No. _____
or Rural Route _____

THE SPANISH SWINDLE.
Old Prison Story Poured into Ears of South Dakotan.
Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 22.—Special to The News: The receipt a day or two ago by James Birnie, a well known resident of Union county, of one of the letters from Spain, proves that the proceeds of what has become known as the "Spanish swindle" have not yet ceased operations. These letters purport to have been written by some unknown relative who because of political reasons has been placed in prison in Spain, but in each instance the party has a daughter who requires attention. Former letters have asked for money at once, with which to send the forlorn daughter to America, but the letter received by Mr. Birnie is a little different, and simply asks if he will care for the daughter if she is sent to his home. As Birnie does not need an adopted daughter, and has no money which he care to donate to the swindlers, the letter remains unanswered but has been given a place in his collection of curios.