

# SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS-HERALD.

THE NEWS, Established Nov. 5, 1891.  
THE HERALD, Established April 10, 1894.

Consolidated Jan. 1, 1895.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEB., NOVEMBER 24, 1897.

VOL. VI. NO. 5.

## ASSAULTED AND LEFT FOR DEAD.

### Peter Curtis Discovered in a Dying Condition.

Lies Unconscious in a Pasture for Twenty-four Hours—Is Unable to Tell Who His Assaulters Were—Believed to Be the Work of Tramps—Other Interesting Notes.

UNION, Neb., Nov. 19.—[Special to THE NEWS]—Peter Curtis, a young farm hand, was discovered in an unconscious condition this afternoon in a pasture belonging to Thos. Wolf. His hands were tied, he was securely gagged, and there was a deep wound on the back of his head. He had also been struck in the face, and both eyes were swollen shut. He was brought to this city, and is still in an unconscious condition with small prospect of recovery.

The young man had been here Thursday evening and made some small purchases, including a cap and two boxes of shells. He left here, as far as can be learned, about 8:30, saying that he was going out to the home of Thos. Wolf to spend the night. This was the last seen of him until late this afternoon.

He was discovered by J. H. Baum, who had gone into the pasture after some horses. He immediately got help and brought the unconscious man here, where two doctors have been working over him since.

It is known that young Curtis had in the neighborhood of \$5 when he left here, and his pockets were empty when found. It is believed that he was followed by tramps, of whom there were several in town, who forced him to walk up the little draw where he was found, and where they beat him into unconsciousness, tied his hands with the cord of his own hat, gagged him with his own handkerchief and left him to die.

The body had been lying where found for nearly twenty-four hours, and the exposure has as much to do with the young man's serious condition as the wounds inflicted.

Six suspicious characters, who have been hanging around town, have been placed under arrest and will be held until a thorough investigation can be made.

The sheriff was telephoned for about 5 o'clock and arrived here a little after 7, and is making a thorough investigation.

UNION, Saturday, Nov. 20.—Peter Curtis, the young man brought to this city yesterday, is still unconscious, with slim prospects of recovery. His parents, who live about six miles south of Rock Bluffs, arrived last night and are caring for him as well as possible.

An inspection of the scene of the attempted murder shows the tracks of at least two people, and signs of a violent struggle. When discovered, his hat was lying beside a pool of blood, about twenty yards from the body, and it is supposed that he partially regained consciousness some time yesterday and managed to move that far before he again fainted.

A more thorough investigation late today of the pasture where the body was found, was made by the friends of the unfortunate lad, and footprints were discovered leading out of the pasture which showed a patch on the sole of the right foot.

A man was placed under arrest in Nebraska City who wore such a shoe, and will be held until the matter can be most thoroughly looked into.

### Plenty of Stock.

In an interview Edward Cudahy, of the Cudahy Packing company of Omaha, asserted that there are more cattle and hogs being fed in Nebraska than ever before, says a Lincoln dispatch. He says that next year more fine cattle and hogs will be sent out of Nebraska to the Chicago and Omaha markets than the cattle men of the west ever dreamed of, and he makes his calculations from figures which he has received from every precinct in the state of Nebraska during the last two months.

Mr. Cudahy expects a greater increase in the sheep market of this season than in cattle and hogs. He estimates that 5,000,000 sheep are being fed in Nebraska right now. That is 30,000 above the average. Most of these sheep are in large bunches and are being well taken care of. They sent into Nebraska because the winters are milder and the less consequently lighter.

### Citizenship Meeting.

The Union Citizenship meeting at the Presbyterian church last night was well attended, the seats being all occupied and a number of extra seats also filled. Dr. Baird and Rev. Campbell both delivered interesting addresses. Dr. Baird appealed for a greater Christian fellowship and a greater interest in the church and church work among business men. Rev. Campbell also urged the business men of the city to greater interest in the work of the church, and impressed upon his hearers the advisability of a more liberal patronage of the home merchants and less running to Omaha to purchase goods.

Col. Thresher added to the county treasury surplus today by paying in \$500 on taxes for one of his clients.

## A TREACHEROUS ROOM-MATE.

### John Anderson Robbed of \$13 by His Room-Mate.

John Anderson, an employe of the Burlington shops, who has been boarding at the Hotel Plattsmouth and rooming with a young man giving the name of Robertson, who was working on the dump across the river. They retired as usual Saturday night, but some time during the night Robertson silently arose, took \$13 from the pocket of Anderson's trousers, and as silently stole away. He has not been heard from since and it is presumed that he will not return.

### INFORMATION AND OPINIONS.

Press dispatches from New York announce that one Kirk appeared in court dressed in black frock coat, yellow waistcoat, striped black and white trousers and patent leather shoes, the uppers of which matched the trousers. And yet the dispatches stated his features was a mystery.

going on an extended holiday trip to some of his dominions during the winter. Private advices indicate that he has engaged Judge Cunningham H. Scott to run things at St. Petersburg during his absence, but private advices are sometimes unreliable.—Ex.

Count Tolstoy, about whose health disquieting reports reached this country some time since, has completely recovered. Next spring he intends to undertake a journey of about two years' duration, in the course of which he will visit the great cities of the Old and New worlds—apparently, therefore, planning to visit this country. It is also said that he has finished two short novels drawn from the life of the Russian aristocracy and from that of the peasantry.

The success of the republican ticket in Thurston county shows the salutary effect of having the Indians under proper influences. The new agent there is a republican.—Fremont Tribune.

Some of the grand old bulwarks of the old-time democracy, who have been true to the tattered ensign of the party through all its trials and tribulations, have at last deserted, and have gone over in a shamefaced way, to the new democracy, which is not a democracy at all, says West Mason. The name is all that it has, and that was stolen. The old-time democrats hate to be called anything but democrats, and hence they go over to the enemy, but they will not stay there long. If they believe in sound money, as they certainly do, they must sooner or later join the republican party, which is the only organization that champions the great cause. The old-time democrats have always had great contempt for the newer democrats, and, if they herd with them, they must naturally feel a contempt for themselves.

It is said that the czar of Russia is "We have all heard," writes a citizen of Kearney to The Journal, "of the gag published all around in the eastern papers of the fellow in Nebraska who lost a three hundred dollar diamond shirt stud gathering corn. But coming down the street today I saw, in an old ramshackle wagon going out to some farmer's home, a beautiful, all-brass bedstead, bought, I suppose, all on account of the famine in India."—State Journal.

THE NEWS mentions with regret that Uncle Tom will not be here Saturday evening, as previously announced, the date having been canceled. However, the manager checks our drooping spirits by assuring us that the company will be here some time next month.

The Cinderella in every home is the mother, and the prince will never come to rescue her, for the reason that she made a mistake at the beginning of the story by marrying the man she supposed to be one.—Ex.

Thrashing the Blind Goddess. This recipe for perpetual motion comes from California. Take a murderer. Mix with one good criminal lawyer. Convict murderer. Pass sentence of death. Appeal to supreme court. Get a remittitur, writ of replevin, order to show probable cause, ouster main, collar-and-hames, or some other legal padlock on the sheriff to prevent hanging. Argue it to a finish. Have day of execution set again. Take another appeal. Get another doctory from the supreme court. Fight that to a standstill. Repeat the process as often as desired, and if the people don't hang the lawyer, and the murderer doesn't die of old age power can be generated in unlimited quantities for an unlimited time.—Chicago Journal.

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## SCIENTISTS RETURN FROM STRANGE ARCTIC EXPLORATION.

### In the Midst of a Land of Everlasting Ice They Have Been Digging Up Fossil Palms, Etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 19.—Two Smithsonian scientists, Charles Schuchert and David White, have just returned from the wilds of West Greenland, bringing back valuable collections. In a region of everlasting ice and snow they have been exploring luxuriant tropical forests. Far to the north of the Arctic Circle they have studying a flora, consisting of palms, tree ferns and other plants, belonging properly to the neighborhood of the equator. These forests, however, and the trees and varied forms of plant life which compose them are exceedingly ancient. In fact, they disappeared from the face of the earth several million years ago, and only their fossil remains are found buried in the strata of the rocks. It was these remains that Messrs. Schuchert and White went to investigate. They wanted to get specimens for the National Museum, and other objects of a geological nature were in view.

Greenland was once upon a time a tropical country. That is proved absolutely by the remains of an extensive tropical flora which are found there. Where now a sheet of solid ice over a mile thick covers mountain and valley, and mighty frozen rivers called glaciers, make their way to the sea and hatch icebergs, there was in earlier days a verdure-clad wilderness of luxuriant vegetation. Together with the palms and tree ferns, there were trees related to the giant sequoias of our own west coast, also, representatives of the "gingko," the sacred tree of Japan, and of the Eucalyptus family, which today is restricted to Australia. Climbing vines festooned the trunks of these magnificences of an ancient forest with dependant foliage, while close to the ground grew those curious dwarf trees called "cycads," somewhat resembling palms in miniature, in the midst of a tangled undergrowth of ferns and other flowerless plants that carpeted the densely wooded areas.

The finding of the oldest hardwood plant yet known in the world was perhaps the most interesting discovery of the expedition. It was a species of poplar, and the tree grew during the epoch already described, when Greenland was covered with tropical forests. This was the early part of that age which geologists call the cretaceous—that is to say, not less in all probability than 5,000,000 years ago. The later cretaceous flora of the Noursoak region, as proved by the fossils, must have embraced many hardwood trees which were of the same generation as those which flourished at the same period along the east coast of North America from Cape Cod southward and around into the gulf states. They included representatives of the tulip tree, the poplar, the magnolia, the willow, the eucalyptus and the sassafras. Apparently, at that time the climate of Greenland was much like that of the gulf states today.

All the evidence seems to point to the conclusion that climates all over the world in that ancient epoch were pretty much the same. The same plants grew contemporaneously in Greenland and in California, in Spitzbergen and in Virginia. There was a uniformity of vegetation in all parts of the earth. Nobody can say just why this was, though several theories have been advanced to account for it. One theory is that the atmosphere in those days was heavily charged with watery vapor, so that warmth was readily distributed through it, and the sun's rays did not have a chance to strike the earth uninterrupted, making differences in climate by the degree of their slant. In the course of time the atmosphere thinned gradually, and then there came to be climatic variations marking a series of zones around the globe.

Essentially arrived the tertiary epoch, which was the last great geological period before that in which we live, which is the quaternary. It was at the beginning of that age that mammals first made their appearance on the earth, so far as known. No remains of tertiary mammals, however, have been discovered in Greenland, though the mammoth, the mastodon, the woolly rhinoceros and other creatures are known to have existed there. The expedition found the region about Noursoak very rich in the remains of tertiary trees and other plants. In addition to the willow, tulip tree, poplar, sassafras and magnolia, there were chestnut trees, oaks, hickories, birches, beeches, other common kinds of hardwood trees of modern types, including some that were nearly related to the sand cyprus of the southern states. There were also several species of palms, some of which belonged to the genus *Flabosaria*, which now survives in tropical and subtropical countries. Of course, the Greenland climate had become much cooler by this time, but palms grow in latitudes where there are light frosts now and then.

An arctic tertiary flora has been found all around the world—in Ice-

## A FARMER HELD UP BY TWO WOMEN

### And Is Relieved of Some \$600 in Cold Cash.

Two inmates of the Feeble Minded Institute at Beatrice Escape and Wonder Around Until Picked Up by the Police—Politicians of Beatrice Pay a Wager by Giving a Banquet.

HAY SPRINGS, Neb., Nov. 21.—A bold holdup occurred early this evening about five miles southwest of here. The bandits were two women and one man, mounted on horses. The victim was Mr. Klinglesmidt, a farmer from Wyoming. He had sold out recently and by wagon was on his way overland to St. Joseph, Mo., with some \$600 on his person. He first encountered two women riding horseback. Both had veils over their faces, but did not look suspicious. To his surprise, an order was given of hands up with four revolvers pointed at him. He obeyed without any attempt at resistance. Presently he received a blow from behind, causing him to fall from the wagon. He was then beaten into insensibility by a man who was in hiding behind a haystack close by. When Mr. Klinglesmidt regained his senses the money was missing, and he saw the robbers riding at great speed in a westerly direction.

Found Wandering the Streets. BEATRICE, Neb., Nov. 22.—Three low grade inmates of the institute for feeble minded were found wandering about the city late last night by the police and were taken care of at the police station until this morning, when they were returned to the institution. The management is being severely criticised for allowing such a thing to occur. The boys would probably have perished had they not been taken in. One of the boys is from Omaha.

Warm Weather For Pastures. FREMONT, Neb., Nov. 21.—The warm weather of the last month following the October rains has benefited pastures considerably. In some places the blue grass started up the same as in the spring. The number of sheep fed in the vicinity exceeds that of any previous season. It is estimated that over 80,000 sheep will be fattened on Dodge county corn and hay this winter. The number of cattle being fed is difficult to estimate, but from the cattle feeding mortgages filed it is probable 20 per cent over the number fed last year.

Banquet at Beatrice. BEATRICE, Neb., Nov. 21.—The second annual banquet and exchange of courtesies, which about 100 republicans and democrats agreed upon as a wager upon the election, was held by them last night at the Paddock hotel, where covers were laid for nearly the full membership of the club. An excellent menu was served. The speech-making continued until late. W. W. Duncan acted as toastmaster.

Water Supply Nearly Exhausted. FORT SCOTT, Kan., Nov. 21.—Save for one or two artesian wells this city is without water. The continued efforts of twenty men, who for two days and nights have been dynamiting the Marmaton river bed for water to supply the city, have failed, and last night the water company's pump house began drawing wind and the entire city supply was shut off. This condition is unprecedented, and unless the men who are still at work with dynamite and powder can bring water down from four miles above in a short time many mills and factories will be forced to shut down.

The rainfall for the last month or so has been light to afford relief. Owners of the artesian wells are selling their water and at the shutdown of the dumping works last night raised the price.

Luertger Case Comes Up Today. CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—The Luertger case will be called for a second trial at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning in Judge Horton's court. The state will announce its readiness to go on with the trial at once, but it is very probable that Attorney Phalen for the defense will ask for a continuance or a change of venue. Mr. Phalen is still examining the long record in the case and desires more time to prepare for the trial. He has not yet decided upon his strategy in the case and may decide to conduct the defense alone.

Arrested on Suspicion. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Nov. 21.—A man who is suspected of being one of the assailants of Peter Curtis was arrested by Chief Faunce last night. Two pocketknives were found on his person. These were taken to Union and shown to the boy's parents and some of his associates, but no one could identify them. No other evidence of guilt attaches to the man, who has the appearance of being a harmless tramp.

Otoe County Wheat Acreage. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Nov. 21.—The acreage of the fall wheat in Otoe county is nearly double that of last year. The plant is in splendid condition. Good progress has been made in corn husking. The yield is fully up to estimates on the crops of Nebraska given recently in the Bee.

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## THORN TRIAL WILL BEGIN TODAY.

### State Will Have a Witness Not Before Summoned.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—Martin Thorn will tomorrow be placed on trial for the second time for the murder of Goldensuppe. Thorn and Mrs. Neck will both appear on the stand. An important witness not subpoenaed in the first trial will be Constantine Koehn, a barber, who worked beside Thorn for nearly a year. Upon his testimony the state will base his argument that it was Thorn and not Mrs. Neck who planned and committed the crime. Thorn's testimony will be equal to a plea of being an accessory after the fact. His part of the murder, he will declare, was merely to aid Mrs. Neck in disposing of the ghastly remains and protecting her by silence, claiming that the woman did the murder.

MYNARD ITEMS. The M. P. pay-car visited this place Sunday morning.

W. R. Murray and J. E. Morgan bought and shipped four cars of apples this fall.

The elevator at this place has been sold. Charles Bengen will run it hereafter.

Corn is yielding from thirty to forty bushels per acre around here. Some of the farmers are done husking corn.

The United Brethren folks are having their church building repaired in the way of a new roof and some plastering.

W. A. Swearingen, our agent and postmaster, has moved his family to Plattsmouth, where their little son will go to school.

Mynard will certainly be a peaceable community hereafter—we now have a justice of the peace and a constable. If any of the boys get into a scrape, W. F. Gillespie will escort them before his honor, Justice Porter.

Decides Against Shryock. Accident insurance cannot be recovered in cases where people die from an attack of heart disease, superinduced by an accident, it being held that accident is the cause of death. Such was the ruling of Judge Munger of the federal court in the case of Ceia V. Shryock against the National Accident association of Iowa.

This was the contention of the defense in the case. It showed that at the time of the accident, Shryock was suffering from heart trouble. It further showed that the accident in which he figured was such a one as would not ordinarily cause death, although it might have aggravated the heart trouble so that death resulted. Therefore the contention was made that under its contract it could not be held liable.

Judge Munger intimated that he would hold with this position. The plaintiff's attorneys therefore requested and were granted leave to withdraw a juror on account of surprise and thus end the case in order that they might secure a continuance.—Bee.

German Theatre. The Turners gave an entertainment at their hall on Washington avenue last evening. There was a good program, the chief features of which were a debate on the recent coal miners' strike in Pennsylvania, Louis Ottot, Paul Gering, Fred Ebinger, participating, and a burlesque entitled "The Berlin Hoboes." Ottot, Ebinger and two others taking the several parts. There was a large attendance, and the program was much enjoyed by those present.

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