

The Semi-Weekly News-Herald

GEORGE L. FARLEY, Proprietor.

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One Year, in advance, \$1.00
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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION

Of any Cass County Paper.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1900.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

National.

For President
WILLIAM MCKINLEY
For Vice President
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

For Presidential Electors
J. T. NESBITT of Bari,
K. E. WINDHAM of Cass,
ED ROYCE of Cass,
L. M. HAGUE of Kearney,
P. DAVIDSON of Johnson,
L. JACOBSON of Douglas,
J. L. KENNEDY of Douglas,
JOHN L. LANGER of Saline.

Congressional.

For Congress, First District
K. J. BURKETT of Lancaster.

State.

For Governor
C. H. DIETRICH of Adams.
For Lieutenant Governor
P. P. SAVAGE of Cass.
For Secretary of State
G. W. MARSH of Richardson.

For Treasurer

WILLIAM STEUBER of Cassing.
For Auditor
CHARLES WESTON of Sheridan.

For Commissioner

GEORGE D. FOLLMEK of Nuckolls.
For Attorney General
E. N. FROST of Cassing.

For State Superintendent

W. K. FOWLER of Washington.

County.

For County Attorney
JESSE L. ROOT of Plattsmouth.
For Commissioner, First district,
LLOYD D. BENNETT, of Plattsmouth.

Legislative.

For Senator
WILLIAM H. NEWELL, of Plattsmouth.

For Representatives
MARTIN L. FRIEDRICH,
RICHARD WILKINSON.

Floot Representative.

DAVID A. BROWN, of Otoe.

You cannot afford to miss Congressman Burkett's speech this evening at Waterman hall.

It begins to look as though there would be a greater landslide to McKinley in 1900 than in 1896.

At a mock presidential election at the University of Wisconsin, to continue two days, the first days vote stood, McKinley, 336; Bryan, 75; Woolsey, 6; Debs, 2.

The Travis-Rowley debate in this city next Thursday evening gives promise of being well attended. Everybody seems anxious to see how it's going to "come out."

SINCE our townsman, Andy Taylor, has been to Canada and investigated the Benwell matter and succeeded in securing several interviews with the murderer of Matt Akeson, the story circulated about his dying three days after reaching home won't go.

TWENTY-ONE thousand voters have registered in Omaha and South Omaha, 15,524 of which have given their party affiliations as being "Republican." This gives the republicans a majority of 741 over all who have other party affiliations or have no party affiliations at all.

THE blackest lies ever told on any man are being circulated by some fusionists for the purpose of defeating, if possible, C. H. Dietrich for governor. Governor Poynter's record has been disgraceful and they know it, and in order to bolster him up they have adopted the plan of blackmailing the republican candidate.

THE strike of the anthracite coal miners of Pennsylvania is finally at an end, and the boys expect to resume work Monday. The justice of the demands of the miners has been apparent from the beginning, and they are to be congratulated on winning such a victory. They did not get all for which they asked, but enough so it would be unwise to hold out longer at this time.

GEORGE L. DOBSON, Iowa's secretary of state, is said to be making the most sensible and business-like speeches of any one campaigning in this state. He prefers to talk to laboring men, having been one himself. Arrangements had been made for him to speak in Plattsmouth next Monday evening, but on account of the opening of The Parmele, was changed to Tuesday. He desires to address the railroad men especially at that time. Mr. Dobson is to speak at Havelock, McCook and other railroad points, being a general favorite with the boys.

IF THE republican vote is gotten out the state will doubtless go for McKinley. If republicans are in earnest and believe it would be for their material interests to keep the present administration in power they should not hesitate a moment about putting in a full day at the polls. No man should depend on some one else to do his share of the work. If the re-election of McKinley means anything at all it means enough that there isn't a farmer or a laboring man in Cass county who could not well afford to spend the entire day at the polls working to that end. Please do not depend upon a half dozen

LABOR LEADER DESERTS BRYAN.

Mark L. Crawford, former president of the International Typographical Union, tells why he cannot support the fusion leader.

"I have voted the democratic ticket since I had a vote. With much mental reservation I followed the party in its declaration that the civil war was a failure; its opposition to specie payment; its greenbackism, its 'tariff for revenue only,' and last but not least, its '16 to 1' heresy. But I must decline to take another dose of '16 to 1' and 'imperialism' and shall vote the republican ticket.

"On 'Looking Backward' I am impressed with the feeling that the war was not a failure; that specie payment not only came but came to stay; that greenbackism was only the result of indignation; that we tried 'tariff for revenue only' to our sorrow.

"Four years ago when the business of the country was paralyzed, when large armies of honest, unemployed men were tramping the country seeking work, when soup-houses had to be established all over the country to prevent starvation, Mr. Bryan said to these hungry people: 'There is no end to the gold standard. You think you have suffered enough; your suffering has just begun. You think there has been enough depression, but depression has but just commenced.' He failed to say that it was a democratic administration that had caused the suffering. If the last four years are a sample of the 'suffering' we are to have under a gold standard, I for one am ready and willing to 'suffer.'

NOT TO TALK MONEY.

Just as Mr. Bryan was closing his speech at Washington Park, N. J., some one in the distance held up a silver dollar. Mr. Bryan saw it and said: "I notice a gentleman over there hold up a silver dollar, and he evidently wants to know something about silver. I will remind him that his desire to hear something about money and nothing about human rights illustrates the sordid level upon which the republican party is fighting this campaign."

The fusion candidate is evidently being very, very sensitive about silver and seems to forget that he mentioned the matter himself in 1896, and did not consider himself on the "sordid level" of a republican either.

JUDGE NEWELL says that so far as his record in the state senate is concerned he has nothing to talk back

KEARNS IS LOCATED.

Governor Poynter Pardons Murderer Kearns Under Suspicious Circumstances.

The Cass County Murderer, Living in Ottawa, Canada, Tells His Story.

Omaha, Oct. 29.—In no instance has the pardoning power of the governor been more shamefully abused than by Governor Poynter in pardoning John Benwell Kearns, the murderer of Matthew Akeson of Cass county. With the facts relating to this most awful crime, shocking in its brutality, most of the people of Nebraska are familiar, but there are few who are aware of the fact that Kearns was pardoned under very suspicious circumstances, circumstances indicative of shameful collusion, if not downright fraud.

Governor Poynter pardoned Kearns on the claim that he was "dying," but it now develops that Kearns is living in Ottawa, Canada, and is in perfect health. Sixteen months have elapsed since the brutal murder of old man Akeson was clandestinely and secretly released from the penitentiary and "sent home to die," but he is not only not dead, but is working every day and has been for the last ten months and is, as shown by the following dispatch from Ottawa, in perfect physical condition.

GOOD TIME ALLOWED.

Perhaps the most glaring impropriety is the allowance of "good time" to a prisoner sentenced for life. This is an irregularity, an inconsistency, a discrepancy so difficult of mathematical calculation and logical analysis that it is passed up to Governor Poynter for an explanation. It is not a fact that the "good time" allowed was allowed so that the convict might be released about two years before the end of the commuted sentence, seven years and six months? Kearns was sentenced for life, Governor Poynter commuted his sentence to seven years and six months and then, to make matters worse, reduced his term more than two years by allowing him "good time." In other words, the perpetrator of one of the most deliberate and cold-blooded murders ever committed, who was tried, convicted and sentenced for life was turned loose by Governor Poynter inside of five years afterward. Kearns was released from the penitentiary while the soil was yet fresh on the grave of his victim. What inspired such an act on the part of Governor Poynter is a mystery which the "certificates" of the

had never wronged a child and who was universally esteemed as a good citizen, to die by the hand of a brutal murderer in his own home?

Did humanity dictate to Kearns, when for the purpose of robbery, he entered the Akeson home and shot down helpless victims?

Governor Poynter misjudges public sentiment when he assumes to placate it by any such excuse. Had Kearns been tried and the governor knew of his own personal knowledge that such was his condition, he might have paroled him on the condition that he be re-imprisoned if he regained his health. But according to Kearns' own words, Governor Poynter knew nothing of his condition and the result is that instead of Kearns "going home to die," he is as healthy appearing today as any man in the great city of Ottawa, as the following dispatch from that place clearly shows.

The statements made by Kearns were made to A. B. Taylor of Plattsmouth, who went to Canada and saw and talked with Kearns. Mr. Taylor was bailiff in the court at Plattsmouth when Kearns was tried and had charge of the prisoner during the trial. Mr. Taylor is one of the best and most respected citizens of Cass county and any one who doubts that Kearns is alive and well will be convinced to the contrary by consulting Mr. Taylor. Following is the dispatch:

MURDERER TELLS HIS STORY.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 17.—Without even a blush upon his cheek or tremor of his lip, John Benwell Kearns, murderer of Matthew Akeson of Cass county, Nebraska, today told the story of that shocking tragedy and the story concerning the manner in which he was released from the penitentiary.

Kearns resides here at 41 Lyon street with his parents, who keep a boarding house. He is employed as a bookkeeper in the leather and harness store conducted by S. & H. Borbridge, 88 Rideau street. He has been employed there over five months, qualifying himself in a local commercial college beforehand. He was pardoned out of the penitentiary May 23, 1899, and "sent home to die," but of the 16 months he has been free he has devoted ten months to menial and physical labor and today is as healthy appearing as any man in this city of 60,000 people, tall, stout and in fine physical proportion. Nothing is known here of his history in Nebraska. The family guard his record with utmost care.

When Kearns' household was visited last night persistent inquiry failed to elicit any information concerning the identity of the murderer. Kearns admitted that he had been away to the states, but denied ever having been in Nebraska. Despite the denials the different members of the family appeared to be nervous about something and this was what endeared a very remote ember of hope in the matter of solving the mystery.

The investigation was renewed bright and early this morning and diligent efforts, in which assistance was rendered by Detective Foster and Chief Sherwood of the Dominion police, resulted in such an array of evidence that Mrs. Kearns, mother of the murderer, finally acknowledged that he was the man.

"I have tried to keep the whole thing a secret from the public," she said, "but I see you have the facts pretty well in hand. John is working right along and has a good job."

"How did he happen to get pardoned?" was asked.

"I really don't know. I never asked for it and I don't know who did. He used to work for a rich man named Brown in Montana, but I do not know whether he helped him out or not. Yes, I heard that it was reported here in the states that he bought his pardon. I don't know anything about it. The first I knew he was in prison was when I got a letter stating he was there and was sentenced for three years. I wrote to him about two years later and asked him, if he was soon to be out and he then wrote me he was sentenced for life. He misrepresented the facts to me in his first letter."

"Do you mean to say that you alone of the family know of his trouble?"

"No; his father knows about it and he put in part of the money to pay his way from there here. Nobody else here in Ottawa knows about it and I hope nobody else will."

DECLINES TO DISCUSS PARDON.

When asked how she heard that the report was in circulation that he bought his pardon she could not say, though it is evident that she has been advised by somebody at Lincoln as to certain conditions and further advised to refrain from talking on this subject.

She admitted receiving a letter from Governor Poynter last June asking her to furnish a physician's certificate as to her son's health, but she failed to comply with the request, ostensibly for fear the secret would get out, but in reality because the "dying man" was in excellent health and was at work.

KEARNS TELLS HIS STORY.

John Kearns, the son, after learning that further efforts to hide his identity were useless, made a signed statement in substance as follows: "I was pardoned out of the penitentiary May 23, 1899. I had been sick prior to that time, but was convalescing at the time I was pardoned. I was kept in the hospital up to the time I was released, but I was up and around four weeks before. Of course, as long as they let me stay there I would have been a fool to have asked to go back to the cell."

"Who interested for you or asked for your pardon?"

"I do not know. Brown of Montana was down to see me once, but I do not know whether he made any special effort to get me out."

"Is it not a fact that Brown's money inspired your pardon?"

LEIDIGH SUGGESTED IT TO HIM.

"I could not say. I know that there was considerable talk about prisoners getting out through influence and the use of money, but I can't say in my case. Warden Leidigh is the first man that ever mentioned pardon to me. I got one until a few weeks before I got it. Governor Poynter did not see me but once after I was convicted and that was one day when he was there on a visit. He did not know of my personal knowledge what my condi-

tion was at the time I was pardoned. "Leidigh had a good pull with him and he helped me out. I wrote a letter thanking them both on reaching here. I was released late in the afternoon and was taken to the depot in a carriage. They bought me a ticket through to Ottawa and I lost no time in getting away. At Chicago I bought a suit of clothes and sold my prison suit to a second-hand dealer."

"I had a good appetite the last four weeks I was in the penitentiary hospital and was getting on my feet when I got out. My hemorrhages stopped long before I was pardoned and I have never had any since," he said, with a squint of the eye.

"You are a pretty rugged looking corpse," was remarked.

"Yes, I am in pretty fair shape, though I don't feel exactly like my former self."

"Is that not due to worry and thoughts about the awful crime you committed?"

"Well, there are some things that worry me aside from the condition of my health. Of them I would rather not speak."

"When did you last hear from Nebraska?"

"About 12 weeks ago. Mother got a letter from Governor Poynter, in which he asked for a physician's certificate. She tore the letter up, or I would show it to you. She asked me what to do about it, and I told her to do the best she could for him, for I thought he wanted to use it in politics, and as he had helped me out I wanted to help him out. Mother answered the letter, but I think the certificate was never sent. I have worked steadily for over five months since I got a job and have not lost a day. As to the pardon, I can only say that I owe my success in regaining my liberty to Leidigh and Governor Poynter. How or why the scheme to get me a pardon started before I or any of my relatives asked for one I cannot explain. It may have started while I was sick, but at the time it was granted I was recovering rapidly. If there was such a thing as money used to get it, it was without my knowledge. No doubt such things have been done at that same place, but I can't say it was in my case."

"How did you happen to give your name as Benwell when you were arrested?"

"The other fellow gave the name of Harry Hill. That was not his right name. Noticing that he gave a wrong name I gave one too. I know, however, that if I was caught at it that an alias would make it hard for me, so I gave my name as John Benwell Kearns. When you came to the house last evening I thought that you wanted me for some railroad job. While I was in the penitentiary a railroad detective had me connected with a job that had been done and I expected you intended to prosecute me should I ever get out."

"When I got out it was so arranged that nobody should know it, and my first thought last night was that he had followed me up. I was more interested in keeping my identity a secret on that account than on account of notoriety."

"I have nothing to say about the Cass county affair," came the reply when asked about it. "I was convicted, sent to the penitentiary and pardoned. That is the story of record and that is all the story I'll give you. I am a free man, and I hope to get along as if nothing of the kind had ever happened. I will forget it, whether other people do or not."

WHAT THEY THINK OF KEARNS.

"There goes a man with strong and dangerous criminal instincts," remarked Detective Foster, one of the shrewdest officers of the Dominion of Canada, as Kearns left the room. "I think society is better off without such characters. Look at his first jaw, low forehead and cat-like eyes. I'll watch that man from this on, that's certain." It is evident from Kearns' conversation that he did not tell all he knew in connection with the pardon. It is quite evident that the murder of old man Akeson is not the only crime which concerns him. That he committed other crimes for which he has never atoned or been apprehended is quite certain.

Nevertheless he dresses well, looks trim as a successful stock broker and outside of his family, Chief Sherwood and Detective Foster nobody here in Ottawa knows any of his dark history. He weighs about 180 pounds and is a perfect picture of the ideal athlete. Kearns incidentally spoke of affairs connected with the management of the penitentiary, and said that officials and attaches smuggled in opium, whiskey and morphine to certain inmates and sold it to them. It is a common thing, he said, for them to take money away from prisoners, and while the law is that this money should go into the library fund most of it went into pockets of officials and employees.

IT IS BOGUS.

Frank Carpenter, first vice president of the Anti-Saloon League, and a member of the Carpenter Paper company of Omaha, one of the largest concerns of this kind in the west, when asked if the league had authorized Thomas Darnall to issue and send out circulars urging temperance voters to vote against Charles H. Dietrich, said: "Positively no. On the other hand I could tell you of an honest and thorough business man and a very good citizen. He would make an excellent governor."

Reliability in Vehicles..

.....THAT'S WHAT YOU FIND IN OUR.....

..Buggies, Carriages..

Road and Spring Wagons.

See our Racine Buggies—the best manufactured. We buy our buggies in large lots and get them at the right figures. We also sell them reasonable.

Hand-Made Harness

Genuine Oak-Tanned Leather.

..AUGUST GORDER..

Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

It Would Make You Smile . .

To Call on . .

Elson the Clothier . .

To see our elegant line of goods.

Our . . Mens' Overcoats \$4.35 to \$18.00

Our . . Children's Overcoats \$1.50 to \$8.00

Our . . Heavy Under Suits \$3.75 to \$20.00

Our . . Nobby Youth's Suits \$2.90 to \$15.00

Our . . Elegant Child's Suits \$1.25 to \$6.50

Our Hat department is complete. Our Gloves and mitts, 5 to \$2.00. Our Shirts and Drawers for 45 are daisies. Our Boot and Shoe departments are also full.

Will you come and smile with us?

Elson, the Clothier,

DOVEY BLOCK, Plattsmouth, Nebraska

IF IT IS ANYTHING IN . .

Queensware, Glassware, Chinaware, Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Lamps

you are looking for, remember that

Bennett & Tutt

have the finest line ever brought to the city.

Remember also that their stock of . .

GROCERIES

. . is always fresh and complete

John C. Ptak

Makes the most Fashionable Clothes in town . . .

CLEANING AND REPAIRING.

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Reliability in Vehicles..

.....THAT'S WHAT YOU FIND IN OUR.....

..Buggies, Carriages..

Road and Spring Wagons.

See our Racine Buggies—the best manufactured. We buy our buggies in large lots and get them at the right figures. We also sell them reasonable.

Hand-Made Harness

Genuine Oak-Tanned Leather.

..AUGUST GORDER..

Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

SENATOR A. R. TALBOT ON JUDGE NEWELL'S RECORD.

"My Dear Senator: I hope you do not think that I thought you were at all cranky in your efforts to protect the state, as you saw your duty. No senator ever went out of the senate to his home with any more regard or respect due him than yourself, and your record made in the senate is an enviable one. I congratulate you and the people of Cass upon the success you attained as a senator, and among the entire list of senators I know of no one whose friendship I esteem more than Senator Newell of Cass. I watched your course constantly, and feel that the state was honored in your service, and in your friendship I feel a just personal pride."

The above is taken from a letter, dated at Lincoln, April 10, 1899, just a few weeks after the legislature adjourned. Mr. Talbot, it will be remembered, was president of the senate, and was familiar with the acts of each and every one of its members. Senator Newell found it necessary to oppose the senator from Lancaster on several important measures, hence the foregoing to the judge.

and no apologies to make. Every voter in Cass county knows or can find out how he voted on United States senator two years ago. The fusionists attempted to tell you then how the judge would vote, and they are at the same old dodge today. Mr. Newell carries out the wishes of the people just as nearly as he possibly can, and if you will go to the trouble of looking up the merits and demerits of the various bills mentioned by one or two of our fusion friends you find Mr. Newell voted all right. Some of the bills were introduced for political buncme, some for the purpose of delaying or blocking other legislation, while others, while good in the main, had features that were altogether bad. Look up Judge Newell's record carefully before you criticize him. It will stand the test.

A Birthday Party.
Saturday evening a party of friends of Thomas Koppel called at his home to assist him in celebrating his birthday anniversary. Social games, dancing, etc., were indulged in and a general good social time enjoyed by all.

Those present were Misses Mary O'Neil, Nell Roberts, Alma Timm, Alma Goss, Olga Timm, Kate Richel, Alma Richel, Ora Moore, Emma Goss, Minnie Herold, Julia McElroy, Gertie Fassbender, Anna Koppel and Messrs. James O'Neil, Otto Wurl, Ed Guthman, Walter Cummins, Peter Eikhoff, Havelock; Richard Stultz, Arthur Crissman, Thomas Koppel and Mrs. Jane Kirkham.

An Audience of Thirteen.
A special from Eagle to the State Journal says: "Saturday evening a populist speaker, advertised to deliver a lecture in Eagle on the cause of the fall of prices of farm products during the years of 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873. Just a fair-sized audience gathered in the opera house. The speaker, however, was not a success. He did not have his subject well in hand nor was he able to interest his audience. The people gradually tired of hearing him and when he finally concluded his speech exactly thirteen persons were in the hall besides himself, and some of them were republicans."

Wanted—Girl for general house work. Apply to Mrs. W. W. Coates.

KODOL Dyspepsia Cure

Digests what you eat.

Artificially digests the food and aids Nature in strengthening and reconstructing the exhausted digestive organs. It is the latest discovered digestant and tonic. No other preparation can approach it in efficiency. It instantly relieves and permanently cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Heartburn, Flatulence, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Sick Headache, Gastralgia, Cramps and all other results of imperfect digestion. Price 50c. and \$1. Large size contains 24 times as much. See all about dyspepsia mailed free Prepared by E. C. DEWITT & CO., Chicago. F. G. FRICKE & CO.