

# THE PLATTSMOUTH WEEKLY JOURNAL.

State Historical Society

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

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## PROVED INNOCENT

The Gering Case Dismissed After a Very Brief Hearing.

### ATTORNEY CLARK IS TOO FOXY

And the Silver-Tongued Lawyer From Plattsmouth Unmercifully Roasts Him—A Sad Accident at South Bend.

At the hearing in the Little-Gering case in the Lancaster county court Tuesday afternoon it did not take Judge Lansing very long to realize that he had made a serious mistake in issuing the warrant for Mr. Gering's arrest.

Mr. Gering did not lack for friends and legal advisors, and all day Tuesday he was in receipt of telegrams and notes from his lawyer friends, who were willing to tender him their services. H. D. Estabrook, the distinguished Omaha attorney sent the following telegram to Mr. Gering Tuesday:

"Accept assurance of my unabated confidence in you, also the offer of any assistance in my power. I am yours to command."

Judges Broady, Lambertson and Strode and other prominent Lincoln attorneys also called upon Mr. Gering and offered their services.

At 4:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon Mr. Gering, accompanied by Attorneys Lambertson, Wooley, and J. L. Root, took his place in the court room and the case was taken up.

Mr. Clark stated that he would trust his case with the judge on the showing made in the original petition on which judgment was entered, the affidavit of Mr. Little and the order of the court. Mr. Lambertson acted as spokesman for Mr. Gering. He said that if the prosecution had decided to stand on the showing made by the records the defense would move to dismiss on the grounds that the transaction had been condoned by the reception of the notes, and judgment thereon in this state. He considered the holding of Mr. Gering's body under those circumstances nothing more nor less than an outrage and he insisted that the court discharge him immediately.

Wednesday's Lincoln Journal, in commenting on the case says:

"After Mr. Clark had called attention to the statute governing the arrest of individuals for debts fraudulently contracted, Judge Lansing said that he was satisfied that he had issued the order for Mr. Gering's arrest hurriedly and he was sorry he had not paid more attention to the affidavit filed by Mr. Little. It was defective because it did not show that a fraud had been committed or where it had taken place."

"Upon hearing the judge's statement Mr. Gering rose to his feet and asked a few minutes of the court's time. The court gave him permission to speak, and then followed one of the most fiery roasts that one man ever administered to another. He seemed to have a tongue of flame and the words seemed to burn their way through the room. He was finally called down by Judge Lansing, but it was not until he had declared that he would hound the attorney to the gates of purgatory but what he got even for the indignities heaped upon him."

Mr. Gering returned Tuesday evening and was attending to business as usual today. When asked about his Lincoln experience he said that the money involved was in the nature of a running account between himself and Little; that the latter told him in Sioux Falls to settle the matter whenever he could. Mr. Gering says that the money has all been paid back to Little with the exception of the interest on \$350, less the interest on the different payments he had made. The arrest was instigated by Clark, between whom and Mr. Gering there exists an enmity.

A number of Lincoln attorneys are of the opinion that a blunder has been made by Little's lawyer.

People who were present say that the roasting Matthew gave the foxy Lincoln attorney was the best thing they ever heard.

### Henry Henning Killed.

Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock Henry Henning, a well-known farmer of South Bend precinct, and his little daughter were returning home from a visit at Murdock, and while crossing the Rock Island tracks near the former place their team was struck by a train. Mr. Henning was instantly killed and his little daughter seriously

injured, while the horses were both killed. The particulars of the unfortunate affair are very meagre, and it is not yet known whether the company employes are to blame or not.

Henry Henning is a son of H. J., who resides in Eight Mile Grove precinct. He was thirty-five years of age, and leaves a wife and one child. The funeral will occur this afternoon at one o'clock from the family residence at South Bend.

Mr. Henning was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the A. O. U. W. societies, under whose auspices the funeral will be conducted.

### Cyclone at Stella.

One of the worst cyclones ever seen in Richardson county visited the home of Wm. Stoltz, four miles southwest of Stella, Sunday afternoon. The storm was first seen about one mile south, when three funnel-shaped clouds came together and merged into one. It did not strike the ground until within a few rods of the west side of Mr. Stoltz's grove. From there it moved east through the grove and into the yard and outbuildings, which are situated just south of the residence. It took everything in its path and after the storm had passed nothing could be seen of the barn, two corn cribs, windmill and granary, except a small pile of broken timbers. A mule, which was standing in the barn, was picked up, carried thirty rods and disemboweled, a fine mare was injured so badly that she had to be shot, about 600 bushels of grain was scattered to the four winds and 200 chickens were killed. One live chicken and six dead ones were found, after the storm, half a mile east of the farm. Three wagons and one buggy were entirely demolished, and not enough could be found to make one vehicle.

Mr. Stoltz, his wife and six children were in the cellar when the storm struck the house. The shingles were torn off and all the windows on the east side were broken. As the house stood in the edge of the storm this was the extent of the damage. The fine orchard is a total wreck and all the feeding and other improvements are entirely wrecked. The cyclone passed east from Stella, through the field of Adam Geibhardt, mowing down a strip of corn and oats about 400 feet wide and a half mile in length, in some places hollowing out the ground. At the edge of his field it rose and broke soon afterward, only running on the ground about a mile. Mr. Stoltz's loss is about \$2,000, partly covered by a tornado insurance of \$300 on outbuildings and \$1,000 on the house.

Wallace was also visited by a disastrous cyclone Sunday night. The house of Benj. Young was the first in its path, and it was strewn for miles. Mr. Young's dead body was found yesterday morning about four miles from where his home was located. A number of houses were swept away and several people severely injured in the neighborhood. Many buildings were demolished near Broken Bow and Hampton.

It was one of the most disastrous cyclones which has ever visited this state, and extended over more territory than any previous storm.

### That Russian Thistle.

It now appears that it was rather unnecessary for the county commissioners to send to Harlan county for specimens of the Russian thistle. There is a patch of it down by the B. & M. depot, and David Sampson, jr., is authority for the statement that it has been growing there for the past two years. He says that there was only a small patch last year but it is very much larger now. It is claimed that there is enough seed in one branch of a plant to seed 200 acres of land.

### Thinks Chapple Is His Brother.

R. J. Chapple of Medina, N. Y., in the employ of a sewing machine company at that place, has written to Chief-of-Police Mostyn of Omaha in regard to the sewing machine agent, Wm. H. Chapple, who was murdered last week. The New York man states that he had a long-lost brother by that name and gives a description, which, though meagre in details, corresponds with that of the murdered man. The matter will be investigated and a reply will be given.

Elmwood is going to celebrate the Fourth of July and, as this city will not celebrate the day this year, it might be well for the west-enders to advertise their celebration in this vicinity.

THE WEEKLY JOURNAL will be sent to any postoffice in the United States one year for one dollar, in advance.

## A THIEF CAUGHT.

A Man Wanted at Pacific Junction Captured at Oreapolis.

### MATTHEW GERING ARRESTED.

The Plattsmouth Attorney Has an Unpleasant Experience at Lincoln—His Friends Say the Charges Are Not Truth.

### Sabbed a Burglar.

Monday afternoon the officers here received a telegram from Pacific Junction to be on the lookout for a tramp who had burglarized a house over near Glenwood Sunday evening. The fellow had been seen here about three o'clock and was going north. Officer Fitzpatrick got a team and drove up to Oreapolis and was not long in locating his man. When captured he was carrying one of the stolen articles, a Winchester repeating rifle. The gun had several cartridges in it, but the fellow did not seem disposed to make any trouble and came back to this city with the officer. He was placed in jail over night and Tuesday Constable I. E. Ballard came over from Pacific Junction and took the prisoner over there for a preliminary hearing. The burglar could have been held here until a requisition was furnished from the governor of Iowa, had he so desired, but he seemed willing enough to accompany the Mills county officer over the river.

The man gave his name as E. J. Ryan and said he came from St. Joe, Mo. Sunday night he entered the home of Orrin Lee over near Glenwood and purloined a rifle and a watch on his person, and said he had sold it, but would not say where. He was a tough-looking man and is no doubt an old hand at the business.

### Matthew Gering in Trouble.

People of this city were considerably startled Tuesday morning when it was learned from the Omaha and Lincoln papers that Matthew Gering had been arrested in Lincoln on the charge of obtaining money in a fraudulent manner. The arrest was made at the instance of a man named F. W. Little, who is president of a loan and trust company at Lincoln.

The following is, in substance, what the Lincoln Journal says of the affair: "Mr. Gering says he was loaning money at Elk Point, S. D., in 1887. He had received \$350 and \$300 in two lots from Mr. Little's company and had arranged to loan the amounts to two different persons. About that time he received word to come to Bismark and receive the appointment of attorney-general through the influence of prominent politicians. He had no money of his own and decided to use some of Mr. Little's. Failing to get the appointment he returned and afterward told Mr. Little about it.

"Subsequently Mr. Gering moved to Plattsmouth, and then when pressed for payment by Mr. Little gave his notes for the amount due. When he was elected county attorney he says he offered to pay a part of the claim from his salary, and did pay about \$100.

"When Mr. Gering was nominated for attorney general Mr. Little again pressed his claim and obtained judgment, but the nature of the case was kept secret during the campaign.

"Mr. Gering alleges that the loan company has obtained judgment against one of the men to whom he was to loan \$300 and he now thinks the man must have received the money intended for him on the loan or there never would have been a judgment rendered. He claims to have receipts for a considerable amount which, added to the South Dakota judgment would make Mr. Little's claim very small."

It is claimed by those conversant with the facts that Mr. Gering paid back all the money due Little with the exception of some \$300, and that for the latter amount he gave Little a man's note whom he had loaned the money to. If Little accepted the note that fact would clearly release Mr. Gering from the responsibility of the debt. Mr. Gering was attorney for Mr. Decker in the recent case tried in district court here, whereby Theodore Decker was proven to be one of the heirs to a valuable estate, which had some time ago been settled, and a re-division was accordingly ordered. The attorney's fees in the case were garnished by Little, and it was in regard to this matter that Mr. Gering was in Lincoln Monday. It is presumed

that Little was not successful in his garnishee proceedings, and resorted to this method to get even.

It looks a good deal like a clear case of spite-work on the part of Little, and it is likely to prove a very costly one before the matter is settled.

Henry Gering went up to Lincoln Tuesday afternoon to investigate the matter.

### Old Settlers' Picnic.

Last Thursday the Old Settlers' association of Nebraska held a picnic in McKee's grove, near Palmyra, Otoe county. It was a grand success. The principal orators of the day were Judge Samuel M. Chapman of this city and Judge M. L. Hayward of Nebraska City. Concerning Judge Chapman's address the Nebraska City News says:

"At 1:20 p. m. there was music by the band and Judge Chapman was introduced. He began by referring to the sacred spot where the meeting was held, and said that where he now stood was the very first piece of land ever homesteaded in the United States or any other country. It was entered by Wm. Young, who is still a resident of the precinct. He did not agree with Judge Hayward in regard to the loyalty and patriotism of the young people of today, but said they were just as loyal, just as honest, and would fight just as hard and as long as the soldiers of the revolutionary war or the rebellion. He then devoted his attention to the needs of the farmer and among other things said that what Nebraska needed was storage of water to prevent the hot dry winds of summer. For years, he said, we have been reducing the supply of water—drawing off instead of trying to add to the supply, and the consequence was that many creeks and springs that were running full twenty years ago, were now dry. What we needed were lakes, which nature had provided places all over the west, where water would be stored in the spring and would remain until the next spring. He believed in damming and filling every draw with water, and then the atmosphere would be more moist. He thought the government, instead of appropriating millions to build harbors or attempting to improve worthless creeks, should give the money to be used in building lakes in the western states. He spoke of the farmer's life and urged education. The better a man is educated, he said, the better he is fitted to fight against the world and more of a success he will make in life. If he had his life to live over again, he said, he would never enter a profession but would be a farmer."

### A Happy Wedding.

Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock Rev. Father Carney performed the ceremony which united the lives of Mr. Patrick Egan and Miss Mary J. Wales, two well-known young people of this city. The groom has been employed in the B. & M. boiler shop for a number of years, and the bride is a modest and estimable young lady who has many friends in the city. Mr. Benj. Hemple, jr., of Havelock, and Miss Jessie Kearney, of Omaha, acted as groomsmen and bridesmaid. After the wedding ceremony the party adjourned to the home of the bride, where a sumptuous repast was served, about fifty people partaking. The happy couple departed in the afternoon on Burlington No. 3 for a two weeks' honeymoon at Denver and other points in Colorado. They will commence house-keeping in this city immediately on their return.

THE JOURNAL hopes that their matrimonial bark will always sail smoothly.

### A Little Early History.

Conrad Schmidt, the veteran traveling man, who is now representing the Mokaska Coffee company of St. Joseph, Mo., was in the city yesterday. Mr. Schmidt will be remembered by many old residents of this city, as he used to make this town away back in '69. He is a very interesting conversationalist and relates that he was one of the first men to build a house in Chicago after the great fire. He was singing in the choir at the Episcopal church in this city some twenty-three years ago, when he noticed a friend of his named Lonsdale who was apparently in great distress. He rose and went to the door, and Mr. Schmidt followed. Lonsdale began vomiting blood and in a few moments expired in Mr. Schmidt's arms, death being caused by hemorrhage of the lungs. Many old residents will remember the occurrence well. Mr. Schmidt is now a resident of Beatrice and his son-in-law, Mr. Brown, is publishing the Kearney Hub.

### To Our Friends in Cass County:

Now that the sole purpose of the managers of THE JOURNAL will be to publish a weekly newspaper, and we wish it to be a reflex of the news of Cass county, we are especially anxious to secure correspondents from every precinct in the county who will collect and give us the news from their several neighborhoods while it is fresh and readable. Democrats in the county who have opinions on current topics to express are also invited to write them down and send to us for publication. Do not be afraid to express your opinions, because they are just what other men desire to read. Write for THE JOURNAL.

### A Rare Bargain.

Chas. Richey and Tom Parmele, two well-known Plattsmouth boys, have launched out into the horse-trading business at Louisville. Richey is the business manager, and the other day a fellow tackled him for a trade. The man had a pretty fair specimen of a horse, and as Charley had an animal that was somewhat the worse for wear and tear, he offered his horse and \$10 to "boot" for the other fellow's nag. The trade was made and the stranger drove away with his investment. Richey thought he would hitch up his new horse and take a little spin around the surrounding country. The animal was hitched to Richey's buggy, and he got in and prepared to show the Louisvilleite what a good bargain he had made. But the horse concluded he wouldn't take the aforesaid spin, and turning his head over his shoulder, gave Richey a bewitching smile. All kinds of coaxing and harsh words would not make him move, and Charley was so disgusted that he got out of the buggy and unhitched his "bargain." The next man who proposes a horse trade with him is liable to get hurt.

### Another Good Soaking.

Rain, blessed rain; another shower of plentiful proportions came last Monday to moisten the earth and revive vegetation and send the growing crops booming ahead. Go into the fields now and you can hear the corn snap in its rapid growth, while spring wheat and oats crops are coming forward grandly. The early potato crop is now an assured success in Cass county, and within a month new potatoes will be sold for less than fifty cents a bushel. Eastern Cass has now had fully three inches of rain since the morning of May 30,—divided into a half dozen generous showers. It is glorious.

### A Swedish Picnic.

A party of some sixteen Swedish ladies of this city engaged a large carry-all of W. D. Jones Thursday and went down to Hesser's grove, where the day was pleasantly spent picnicking. While returning in the evening one of the lead horses became frightened and, making a shap turn, broke the whiffle trees. Mr. Jones, in endeavoring to steady the horses was jerked out of the wagon, but was not injured. The ladies were all considerably frightened, but arrived home none the worse for their experience. Chas. Hassman accompanied the party as chaperone.

### Burlington Rate Reduction.

The Burlington announced on Sunday another reduction in packing house products from Omaha to Chicago, Peoria and Mississippi river points of 8 cents under the present rates. It was brought about by reductions east from Kansas City by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas.

What is probably the tallest steer ever seen at the yards, or, in fact, in the country, was brought in with a cattle consignment by Robinson & White of St. Paul. The steer in question attracted a great deal of attention and was certainly a monster. His height is seven feet and when standing he reminds one of an elephant, although head and neck are well-formed and in good proportion to his mammoth body. While very thin in flesh, his present weight is about 2,500 pounds and his frame could easily carry 4,000 pounds. He is dark red in color and very gentle. Zed H. Clark, the well-known cattle speculator, purchased him for \$140, the highest price paid for a single animal in a long time, and he will either show him himself or sell him for that purpose. The steer is six years old and well developed.—South Omaha Drivers' Journal.

Leave your orders for job work with THE JOURNAL, an artistic job guaranteed.

## SOME QUEER SEEDS

A New Discovery Made That Baffles Local Scientists.

### A COUNTY BASE BALL LEAGUE.

Several Clubs in the Western Part of the County Will Play a Series of Games.—Professor Halsey Locates at Rock Island, Ill.

### Jumping Seeds.

Some little girls were playing among the trees in South Park Saturday, when their attention was directed to the curious action of what appeared to be a large number of small seeds that were scattered over the ground in a path that ran through the grove. These small objects were constantly hopping about, like grains of corn in a popper. The little girls looked long and closely at the little things and were so amused and interested at the demonstration that they gathered up a lot of them in their aprons and brought them away. Enclosed in a small paper box a hundred or more of these small objects may be seen at THE JOURNAL office. The tiny objects are of a light yellowish color and look very much like mustard seed. Last fall persons went about the country displaying a small, three-cornered seed called "the jumping bean," which had a similar tendency to jump about, without any apparent cause, the difference being that these mustard seed jumpers are far more active and persistent in jumping about. Doubtless an examination with a microscope would disclose peculiarities not seen by the naked eye.

### Plattsmouth Not in It.

A Cass county base ball league was organized last week at Wabash. Delegates were present from Weeping Water, Wabash, Eagle, Manley, Cedar Creek and Greenwood. H. A. Schneider of Cedar Creek was elected president of the league. Twenty games will be played by each club, and a silk pennant will be presented to the winning team by the G. A. R. encampment, which is to be held in Wabash next August. Each club will pay its expenses and all gate receipts will go into the general fund of the association. The league is composed of some of the best clubs in eastern Nebraska and some good games are expected. Is it not strange that Plattsmouth is not represented?

### Prof. Halsey at Rock Island.

Prof. W. N. Halsey, who was principal of the Plattsmouth schools for the past three years, has been elected superintendent of the city schools at Rock Island, Ill., at a salary of \$1,500 a year. The people of that city will find Mr. Halsey an excellent instructor, and his many friends in this city will be pleased to hear of his desirable appointment. Mr. Halsey was not a candidate for reappointment as principal of the Plattsmouth schools, as he was offered several better-paying positions. He was by far the most efficient principal this city ever had, and the school patrons were all sorry to see him leave.

### A Modern King.

Last Saturday afternoon a trio of Omaha detectives went down to Bellevue to arrest Marshal Vic McCarty on charge of harboring the brewery burglars, but they did not get their man. Mounting his mustang, and with his Winchester across his saddle horn the marshal drove the Omaha cops outside the corporate limits of Bellevue, and the fellows were so badly frightened that they are supposed to be running yet. Bellevue is a bailiwick unto herself and McCarty is her king, according to the tales of Omaha police.—Papillion Times.

### Those Strange Seeds.

It has been developed that the strange "jumping seeds" on exhibition at this office, and which have attracted so much attention, are a species of moth eggs. They are found on the leaves of oak trees and are very destructive. The eggs are laid upon the oak leaves by this moth and the sun does the rest. An oak branch containing several leaves covered with these eggs was received at THE JOURNAL sanctum Tuesday and can be seen by anyone calling.

The Sherwin-Williams prepared paint covers most, looks best, wears longest, is most economical and of full measure. Sold by F. G. Fricke & Co.

The "Plan Sifter" flour is the popular brand. Ask for it from your grocer.