

THIEVES CAUGHT.

Sheriff Eikenbary and His Deputies Make a Good Haul.

WERE WATCHED TWO WEEKS.

Sam Stribling and Julius Ramage Very Neatly Trapped Last Week—Mrs. Shafer Heard From at Lincoln—A Man Killed.

An Important Capture. Daily Journal, July 25.

Sheriff Eikenbary and Deputies Hyers and Denson last evening made a very important capture. For some time various farmers living in this precinct have been "touched up" for grain, chickens, wood, and, in fact, almost everything portable. These pilferings have become so numerous of late that several complaints were made to the officers. The sheriff and his assistants went to work on the case about two weeks ago, and shortly afterwards fixed their suspicions on Sam Stribling and Julius Ramage. These men were "shadowed" nearly every night, and could have been captured on several different occasions while stealing grain from different fields, but the value of the stolen stuff would only make the crime petit larceny, and only punishable by a small fine and light jail sentence. The officers were confident that these were the men who had been committing the various thefts reported and wanted to "cinch" them a little harder. Their patience was rewarded last evening by the capture of both men while in the act of burglarizing a chicken-coop.

Sheriff Eikenbary was down in town at about nine o'clock last night and was just starting for home when he received a "tip" from a man who had been watching the suspects. The man told the sheriff that the thieves were going to make a raid on John Harrington's chicken coop that evening, and were then getting ready to start. Harrington lives on the Samson place, near Crystal Springs church, which is about two miles and a half southeast of this city. Mr. Eikenbary hurried up to Mr. Hyers' place and the two officials hitched up a horse and buggy and started for the scene. They had barely arrived and hidden their rig, when Stribling and Ramage appeared, driving a team hitched to a light wagon. The fellows left the team standing in the road and proceeded at once to Harrington's chicken-coop. The officers were hiding a few feet away in some brush. The men had broken open the door of the coop and Stribling was inside "looting" the fowls, while his confederate was watching on the outside, when Eikenbary unintentionally made a slight noise by stepping on the dry brush. Ramage heard it, and crying to Stribling that "someone's coming" he made a dash to escape, closely followed by Stribling. The officers were after them in an instant, and a lively chase ensued in the dark. The thieves took to the road and ran toward town, and the officers commenced firing their revolvers to frighten the fellows. This scared the team in the road and away they went down the hill. After about a mile's chase Stribling was caught, but Ramage had disappeared in the woods. The team and wagon were found near Lutz's place where they had overturned down an embankment. Stribling was brought to town and placed in jail. Judge Archer was then aroused and a search warrant for the premises of Stribling and Ramage was procured. The officers, accompanied by Jack Denson then proceeded to Stribling's house in Billingstown, which was found to be in darkness. After considerable pounding, Mrs. Stribling opened the door and admitted the officials. Ramage was found standing in the room, and he was immediately arrested and placed in jail.

The men were arraigned before Justice Archer this morning, Stribling being charged with burglary and Ramage with aiding and abetting a burglary. The hearing was postponed until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Then bonds were fixed at \$500 each, which they were unable to furnish, and the prisoners were taken back to jail.

Matthew Gering will appear for Stribling, while Geo. Spurlock will defend Ramage.

Quite an amusing incident occurred last Sunday night in connection with the affair. The three officials had received a hint that the men were going to visit the farm of a man named Spangler that night and steal some chickens. The officers were out there in good time and put up their horses,

leaving their buggies standing in the yard, and laid in wait for the rustlers. It was not long before they appeared, and were not over six feet from where the officers were in hiding. From their conversation it was learned that they intended to go to Nelson Jean's place the following night. The fellows loaded some sheaf wheat and oats into their wagon and were preparing to go, when they noticed Mr. Eikenbary's buggy. Going over to the buggy they removed the sheriff's overcoat, lap-robe and whip, and then coolly proceeded to dig up about half a bushel of potatoes. After loading the things into their wagon they drove off. The officers all witnessed this bold theft, and recognized both men, but concluded to wait until they gathered enough evidence to send them "over the road" before making the arrests.

The overcoat and whip were found in an attic at Stribling's house last night, while the robe was found at Ramage's house, just across the street from Stribling's.

Out on Bail.

Sam Stribling, one of the men arrested on a charge of burglary, was released Saturday night from jail upon furnishing the required bond of \$500. The bond was signed by J. A. Sumner of Louisville, and K. K. Price and J. W. Stribling, a brother of Sam. The latter two gentlemen reside in Iowa.

Mrs. Shafer at Lincoln.

Last Thursday's Lincoln department of the Omaha Bee contains the following bit of interesting information:

"A remarkably comely woman of apparently 22 years of age is Mrs. Ida May Shafer, and she is now in custody at the police station awaiting the arrival of a sheriff from Pacific Junction, Ia., the charge against her being adultery. One week ago today a constable from Glenwood, Ia., was here on the same errand, but failed in his mission and went home. This morning Officer Sipe discovered her in a boarding house and escorted her to the station, from whence the two Iowa officials were wired. It is evident that she is arrested at the instance of her husband. She says, however, that she left her husband three months ago at Glenwood, and at that time he was in jail for selling liquor without a license. His name, she says, is John Shafer. She denied that she had come away with any man, but somewhat confidently remarked that a 'friend' had come on to Lincoln ahead of her, and when she had arrived she secured a room at his boarding house. She expressed confidence that her husband could not prove adultery, because, as she explained, each of them had a separate room. The name of the friend she declined to give. Two months ago, she said, she came to Lincoln and begun suit for divorce. This is true, as shown by the records of the district court. The papers on file show that she was married to John F. Shafer at Hastings, Neb., November 29, 1893. At the end of a month he drove her from home, as related in the affidavit, and compelled her to seek the protection of the sheriff. Since then he has continued his abuse at intervals. She asks, also, to be restored to her maiden name of Ida May Wilkins.

John F. Shafer is the son of a wealthy property owner at Plattsmouth. A young man from that city has been seen escorting Mrs. Shafer around the city during the past two or three days, but it is understood he is not the 'friend' referred to. She says her parents live at Shelton, Neb., and that she had come from that town about ten days ago to look after her divorce suit. She is very self-possessed and not at all alarmed over the probable outcome of her arrest."

Mr. Shafer, the husband of the woman referred to, came over from the Junction last Thursday, and has been in consultation with County attorney Polk. It is understood that he is going to make it "warm" for several "bloods" in this city, who have been "associating" more or less with Mrs. Shafer.

Returned to Lincoln.

Last Monday's Lincoln Journal says: "Mrs. Ida May Shafer, who was arrested here and taken back to Pacific Junction, Ia., to answer to the charge of adultery has returned to Lincoln. She found that there was no case against her there when she arrived, her husband having filed complaint without having sufficient evidence to sustain it. She was released immediately, he paying the costs."

The jolly party that has been visiting at the Greenslate and Clapp residences returned to Plattsmouth Monday, accompanied by Fern and Dean Greenslate.—Elmwood Echo.

WERE BOUNDOVER

Sam Stribling And Julius Ramage Held For Burglary.

A PLEASANT SOCIAL GATHERING.

A Delightful Reception Tendered Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Pollock at the Patterson Mansion—Unusually Large Hail Stones.

Held For Burglary.

The preliminary examination of Sam Stribling and Julius Ramage has occupied the attention of Justice Archer on Tuesday. This case has excited much interest and the court room has been filled to suffocation during the hearing. The defense, which was represented by Matthew Gering and Geo. M. Spurlock, presented a strong case, but after considering the evidence Judge Archer decided to hold both men to the district court for burglary. Their bonds were fixed at \$300 each, and it is probable that Stribling's bond will be furnished by the gentlemen who signed his previous bond. It is not known whether Ramage will be able to furnish a sufficient bond or not.

A Pleasant Social Event.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Patterson was the scene of a very pleasant social affair Monday evening, the occasion being a reception to Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Pollock. Some thirty couples were present and a most enjoyable evening was passed. Progressive high-five and dancing, interspersed by choice vocal and instrumental music by Misses Edith Patterson, Lou White and Antonio Kessler afforded entertainment for the guests. Henry Herold of this city and Mrs. Al. Gass of Pacific Junction were entitled to the honors at cards.

Holmes a Modern Bluebeard

The police of Chicago have been busy for weeks working upon revelations connecting one H. H. Holmes with numerous mysterious disappearances, until they have evolved to their satisfaction the fact that Holmes has been a sort of modern Bluebeard in ability to use and murder people when he got through with them. Several young women were disposed of in this way, and at last one Benjamin Pietzel was murdered for his life insurance, and his two children were made way with in Canada. The finding of the children's bodies led to Holmes' arrest. A vault beneath his house in Chicago wherein he was accustomed to place the bodies of his victims.

Old Settlers' Reunion.

The seventh annual reunion of the old settlers of Cass and adjoining counties on Thursday and Friday, August 15th and 16th. The program is a varied one and includes many interesting features. The Modern Woodmen parade on Friday and Plattsmouth citizens will render a two hours' special program. There will also be good band music, base ball, bicycle races, etc. Among the orators are Church Howe, Rev. Harmon, A. R. Talbot and Jesse L. Root. Every effort is being made to make this reunion the grandest success of any previous ones. Everybody cordially invited.

Big Hail Stones.

The biggest hail stones, perhaps, that have ever fallen in this section fell Sunday morning during the storm. They were of various shapes and sizes and some of them were larger than a man's fist, while others were long, the shape of a banana. Many persons saw them and several were bruised by being out at that time closing cellar doors and window shutters. Ed. Fischer was among the number and had a very lame back from being hit by one while stooping over. They did not fall very thick and, as no wind prevailed at the time, did not do much damage. Everyone who saw them say they never saw them as large before in their lives.—Nebraska City News.

New Counterfeit Silver Dollar.

The proprietor of the Press stepped into a business house yesterday evening to get some change and was handed five silver dollars. Ten minutes after, in making a purchase, one of the dollars was shoved back as being counterfeit. The imitation was nearly perfect, and the money was heavily plated and was dated 1886, with the small letter "o" indicating the New Orleans mint. The only means of telling its non-genuineness was in the lack of the metallic ring.—Nebraska City Press.

AMONG THE FARMERS.

A Trip Through Cass County During the Harvesting Season.

If any of our townspeople would like to get an idea of what Paradise was to our first parents, they ought to make a trip out through Cass county in harvest time. To the south and west from town spreads out in a dish-like depression the Four-Mile valley, the land lying in gentle undulations, sloping toward that stream, and this year nearly every acre in sight has been in cultivation. The expanse, embracing a view of many miles, is almost one continuous field of growing, waving corn, interspersed here and there with smaller fields of wheat, oats or rye. It is a grand and inspiring sight, and the view thus obtained is but a glimpse of what may be seen from every eminence in Cass county. At present the small grain is nearly all in shock or stack, and has been harvested in splendid condition. But the corn crop is the feature of the scene, and in no country we have ever seen has there been a better, or, in fact, so grand a prospect for a great yield of Nebraska's staple as is now presented in Cass county. The season has been propitious for the farmer and the fields generally have been well cultivated and are free from weeds, and, as seen from the highways, the stalks stand up from ten to twelve feet in height.

There is very little pasture or meadow land this season, the pastures having been mostly plowed up in the spring, and many farmers have sown cane for roughness, and, having taken one crop off already, will secure another before fall.

Most of the corn has reached the tassling and silking age, while many fields are even beyond that, and up to last Sunday rain was badly needed. Although many did not speak of it, there was a look of anxiety and worry on every face that bespoke a fear of drouth and hot winds. This was all dispelled however, by the showers of Sunday and Monday last, and there is not a farmer in the county but is now assured of a great crop of corn—extra crop, indeed, as—barring extraordinary mishaps—was never raised in the county before.

On the way toward Rock Bluff by way of the "telegraph" road to Rock Creek and thence east, I came to the home of Mike Morrissey, who owns the old John Holmes farm, with its fine brick and stone mansion on the hill, overlooking a beautiful expanse of farm and wooded land. Mike is getting all out of the land that it will bear, and has nearly 200 acres of splendid corn, with fruit in his orchard to give away.

Going further down the valley past the pleasant, home-like farms of Archie Holmes and Wm. Royal, and turning southward past the more pretentious residence of Jos. Sans and the modest little home of Alex. Graves, who is wisely planting fruit trees on every acre of his holdings, the reporter came to a strange place further up the valley, and was surprised to meet Edward Hall, the son of S. E. Hall, the hardware dealer, who informed him that it was his father's farm. A well loaded orchard adorns the place, and new buildings give it an air of thrift.

Further south I had a pleasant chat with that old friend of the agricultural society, Levi Churchill, who dwells in a new house, south and west of his old farm, and is enjoying a well-earned retirement from hard labor. He talks fruit very intelligently, and has some fine specimens of unnamed summer apples that fell to him when he bought the place.

It is strange, one thinks, in traveling about through the country, how many farmers he finds away from home. Perhaps it may have been owing to their having just completed their grain harvest they were taking a day off with their families and had gone visiting, but there was James Chalfant and G. W. Shrader, both owners of well-developed farms, were not at home when I called. Better fortune attended a call upon J. K. P. Carper, however, who was much encouraged by the crop outlook, and is building up a pleasant home in a grove of oaks and elms. East from this a couple of miles is the locality known as Kenoska, one of Nebraska's early boom towns, long since gone the way Rock Bluffs is going. The corn on the bottoms thereabouts, however, is marvellous in its grandeur, the stalks standing up like small sapplings, and the ears already standing out like those of a donkey—and still a growing.

The old home of J. G. Oldham, so well known in the county, was in this vicinity, but it has fallen into strange keeping since the family has been separated by death's ruthless hand.

On farther west is the old styled mansion of the widow of "Doc" Wiley who is enjoying as well as her ample means will permit leaving life's cares to younger hands.

On the north of the road and west is the old farm and home of Uncle Johnny Allison, as he was familiarly known. Here his son Lee lives and enjoys life, seeking to illustrate the power, endurance and speed of that noble animal the horse, his wife (nee Mrs. Drost) presiding over a well-ordered household and two comely daughters assisting to make home attractive and pleasant to all comers.

Not all the enterprise in the county exists among the citizens of her towns. There is George S. Upton, residing midway between and north of Union and Nehawka, who is not only a thrifty, well-ordered farmer, but, having discovered a ledge of stone on his farm, has had the foresight and enterprise to bring its good qualities to the attention of the public and to develop the quarry to the end that the stone may be put into use. The stone is of gray color, is neither a granite nor a limestone, but is of a conglomerate character, bearing an excellent polish, like marble and, having been tested by marble workers, is pronounced first-class for building and basic monumental work. Conversing with W. A. Hoback of Lincoln, a practical marble workman in this line, he gave to the writer the opinion that it was the best stone for his work that he had seen quarried in Nebraska.

Among the men I met was the venerable Nelson McReynolds, residing near old Mt. Pleasant, who is now nearing his 88th birthday, but is yet quite hale and hearty for one so old. He was born in Tennessee, and came to Nebraska over twenty years ago. His life doubtless has had many incidents well worth preserving.

Mt. Pleasant precinct has some citizens whose success as farmers illustrate the opportunities presented by earlier settlement in this county. Some twenty odd years ago Z. W. Shrader and the Young brothers—George (the present county commissioner,) Lewis H. and Robert, came to this county and bought land all "in a string," it might be said, running north and south, in sections 24 and 25, in town 11 and range 12. They were all poor—almost penniless, and bought wholly on time, but have since made well-improved farms, have good buildings, fine groves, orchards and other improvements and have them all paid for.

Mr. Shrader has given more attention to the care of his orchard than his neighbors and has a model lot of trees, which are bearing nicely. His tree-trimmer is of the best pattern that has come to my notice.

L. H. Young has taken much pride in making his farm a model of cleanliness and order throughout and thinks he has the best located and farmed quarter section within his knowledge. With springs of running water, he has every advantage a farmer desires. He has apples, peaches, pears and plums in abundance, and ought to be happy as a lord.

Robt. Young is the owner of the Peach Grove herd of registered Poland China hogs—the largest and best breed of hog stock in the county. He has the strains known as U. S. M., Tecumseh, Tom Corwin and Black U. S., and is raising some model pigs. He expects to give a sale some time in October. He also is quite a fruit and bee specialist; and has the largest peach orchard in the county, and a splendid variety of apples.

Two Painful Accidents.

John Boetel, who was putting some barb wire fencing around the property of Robert Walker, north of the pump house, last Friday received a very painful wound. While stringing the wire he slipped and fell upon the roll, the sharp prongs cutting a deep gash about two inches in length in the fleshy part of his left thumb. Dr. Cummins dressed the wound.

Herman Streetweiser, who lives near the B. & M. bridge, while endeavoring to hold a fractious horse last Friday, was thrown to the ground and sustained a severe gash across his left wrist. A small artery was severed, and the wound bled freely. He came up to town at once and Dr. Hall dressed the wound. Six stitches were required to sew up the gash.

MORE BURGLARS.

The Home of Peter Hanrahan Robbed Thursday Night.

M. P. OFFICIALS WERE IN TOWN

They Will Probably Decide to Put in a Turn Table Here—One of the Silly Laws Passed by the Last Legislature—Notes.

Peter Hanrahan's House Robbed. Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. P. Hanrahan, who reside on Wintersteen hill, left home at about seven o'clock for a little walk. Returning shortly afterward, they discovered that someone had entered the house during their absence and stolen about \$10 in money, a revolver and a white shirt belonging to Mr. Hanrahan. The theft was reported to the police and the B. & M. yards were searched from the bridge to the waterworks. Several tramps were found and searched, but none of the missing articles were discovered. Mrs. Hanrahan says that she noticed a suspicious-looking man pass her door shortly before they left the house. He hesitated at the door and the lady thought he was coming in, but he passed on. Nothing more was thought of the occurrence until the robbery was discovered. The man is described as being tall and wearing a blue coat and large white slouch hat. Officer Fitzpatrick says he saw a man answering that description Thursday afternoon, but it is believed that he rode out of town on a freight train before the matter was reported to the police.

The city seems to be infested with a gang of thieving tramps of late, as several people have complained of missing various articles.

May Put in a Turn Table. Superintendent Rathburn and a party of officials of the Missouri Pacific railway, including the chief engineer, arrived in the city last Friday in a special car from the south. The party remained in the city until Saturday morning, when they departed for Omaha on the early train.

The object of the visit was to ascertain the advisability of putting in a turn table at this point. It is understood that the officials have decided to do this, and that the turn table will be located a short distance north of the depot. If the work is done a morning train will in all probability be put on from this city to Omaha, which will undoubtedly prove a paying investment for the company.

A Silly Law.

"Now that the county clerk and his deputy have gotten to work making out the tax list for the coming year, the absurdity and the bother made by the late legislature is fully apparent. The law enables a man who lives within a mile of a school in another district to send his children to that school and compels him to have his property listed in that district for school purposes. However, if the district in which he resides is bonded his property must be listed in its district for the bond levy and in the other district for the school expense levy. In several cases where people residing near the county line they have applied to have their property listed in the adjoining county where their children go to school. In this matter the clerk has to find out the levy in that school district and charge it up to the property and the treasurer has to open a separate account for the district if it be in Cass, Lancaster, Johnson or Nemaha and pay the same over when collected. This makes a whole lot of trouble and many errors are liable to arise out of it. It is about one of the most absurd of the many silly laws that our last fall legislature passed."

County Clerk Dickson was shown a copy of the above, and he says it is equally applicable to this county. As yet but one case of that kind has come to his notice, but he expects more.

Man Killed at La Platte. Thursday's Daily. Yesterday as Messrs. McKinsey and O'Leary were returning from Omaha to their home at La Platte, they met with a serious accident, which resulted in McKinsey's death and O'Leary's serious injury. A heavy team that was coming along behind them suddenly became frightened and ran away. Their buggy was run into and overturned and McKinsey received injuries that resulted in his death this morning. O'Leary was less seriously injured.