

# THE PLATTSMOUTH WEEKLY JOURNAL.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

VOL. 14, NO. 41.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1895.

\$1.00 PER YEAR, IF PAID IN ADVANCE.

## FOX A DETECTIVE.

The Plattsmouth Postmaster Appears In a New Role.

### MAKES AN IMPORTANT CAPTURE

An Ex-Iowa Postmaster Worked a Number of His Brethren, But Runs Against the Wrong Man—Had Over \$700.

#### A Clever Forger Captured.

Postmaster W. K. Fox of this city is certainly entitled to considerable credit for a very clever bit of detective work he performed last Friday. At about half-past ten o'clock a well-dressed man entered the postoffice and presented a money order at the window for eighty dollars. The order was from J. N. Simmons, the postmaster at Bell, Iowa, and was made payable to John Young, Plattsmouth. Mr. Fox was a little suspicious of the order, but cashed it for the man. Just as he was placing the order in the drawer, he noticed that on the back of it the words, "identification waived" appeared, but the postmaster's signature was omitted. However, he thought this irregularity was caused by the Bell postmaster's inexperience in writing money orders. Kelly shortly afterwards examined the order again, more closely and discovered that Postmaster Simmons' writing and that of the recipient of the order, John Young, were almost identical. He showed the signatures to several people, and all agreed with him.

Mr. Fox was then almost certain that the money order was a forgery, and borrowed a buggy and drove out to the M. P. depot. Here he learned that "Young" had purchased a ticket for Nebraska City. Hastily returning to town the postmaster went to the telegraph office to wire the postmaster at Bell, Iowa, as to whether or not he had written such an order, but learned that there was no telegraph station at that point.

Mr. Fox then telephoned to the postmaster at Nebraska City, to be on the lookout for the man, and when that official informed him that the same man had presented an order there for \$100, he at once ordered him to have the stranger arrested. The following from the Nebraska City News gives an account of the man's exploits down there:

"A little after noon today a very commonly dressed man presented himself at the post office and tried to cash a postal order for \$100 but failed. The man disappeared, and for a time no trace could be found of him, but about 4 o'clock Sheriff Huberle nabbed him just as he was going into the postoffice again. He was taken to jail, where he refuses to give his name or say anything about himself.

"Since writing the above it has been learned that the man is from Bell, Ia., where the money order was supposed to have been issued, and the money order was found on him at the time of his arrest. The officers are very certain that they have a very smooth man, and one that is wanted at more than one city in the country."

Between six and seven hundred dollars was found in the smooth man's possession, and he has successfully worked the postmasters at Omaha, South Omaha, Papillion, Logan, Iowa, and other points, for sums ranging from \$90 to \$100. He was the postmaster at Bell, Iowa, and it appears that he had filled out a number of money orders and sent them to various postoffices and would then follow and collect the money. Simmons said that Mr. Fox was the first man who had questioned him so closely, and the entire credit for the capture is due the Plattsmouth postmaster.

#### Last Day of the Fair.

Last Friday was an ideal day for a county fair, and, barring a little too much dust, the crowd, which was only fair, thoroughly enjoyed the sports. As on previous days, the bicycle races attracted the most attention, and although the time made was not good, all the races were closely contested and furnished considerable excitement. In the two-third mile open race, Sheldon of Lincoln ran off the track, receiving a severe fall which rendered him unconscious for several minutes. He soon recovered, however, but did not participate in any more races. In the five-mile handicap, Carter of Blair ran into Tom Patterson and both riders were ditched. The result of the bicycle races was as follows:

One-half mile, 1:20 class: Tom Pat-

erson, first; Sam Patterson, second; Chas. Murray, third. Time, 1:19 4-5.

Two mile, open: Carter of Blair, first; Fredrickson of Omaha, second; Sam Patterson, third. Time, 6:24 1-5.

Two-third mile, open: Fredrickson, first; Carter, second; Sam Patterson, third. Time, 2:00 3-5.

Five-mile, handicap: Murray (400 yards), first; Fredrickson (scratch), second; Crawford (350 yards), third. Time, 14:28 2-5.

The horse races were very exciting in the half mile and repeat. Little Dick won, His Honor second, Grey Bess third. Time 0:52, 0:51 1/2.

In the one mile dash Keystone won in slow time. He is owned by Frank Benfer of this city.

**A Sad Slaughter.**  
One man was killed and a whole carry-all load of people narrowly escaped slaughter on Friday afternoon, at Glenwood.

A party of especially invited guests of the managers of the apple carnival had taken dinner at the institute for the feeble minded and were returning to town in a carry-all drawn by four mules. The fast mail train was due from the east about the time the team came to the railway crossing, but for some reason the driver had forgotten it, and started to drive across the track when the train came in sight, a quarter of a mile away and began whistling. The driver whipped up his team and barely got his vehicle out of the way by a few inches when the train went by. The passenger at the rear end, it seems, imagined that it was sure to strike the rig and sprang out on the ground, losing his balance as he alighted, and was struck by the pilot, thrown down and whirled partly under the train. His leg was crushed from the knee down, and his shoulder was crushed. His name was B. A. Reed, he resided at Blue Springs, Neb., and he was secretary of the state horticultural society. He was taken to the asylum, where he died in about 20 minutes. He was a man about 55 years of age, and leaves a wife who is very sick, and a family.

The event had a saddening influence over an otherwise most happy occasion.

#### Bajeck-Cloidt.

Rev. Father Carney officiated last Tuesday at two o'clock at the wedding of Mr. John Bajeck and Miss Elizabeth M. Cloldt. The ceremony occurred at the Catholic church, and was witnessed by a number of friends of the contracting parties. The bride is a young lady of excellent attainments, and is well-liked by all who know her, while the groom is employed in Pepperberg's cigar factory, where he has worked for a number of years, and is a first-class mechanic, and a very industrious young man.

The young couple will commence house-keeping at once at the residence of Mr. Bajeck's father, where they will be "at home" to their friends in a few days. THE JOURNAL wishes them all the happiness and success this world can bestow.

#### McCartys Fail to Get Bail.

A special in last Tuesday's Omaha Bee, says: "Sheriff Startzer brought down from Omaha this morning John Gallagher, William Simpson and Vic and Tom McCarty, prisoners in the Kas assault case. The prisoners waived an examination and were bound over to the October term of the district court under bonds in the sum of \$14,000 each. The prisoners have failed to secure bondsmen at this writing and will be returned to the Douglas county jail for safe keeping."

#### Arranging For a Concert.

Arrangements are being made to give a grand concert in this city in the near future, under the auspices of the P. E. O. ladies. The entertainment will include vocal selections by Miss Lillian Terry of London, England, and her pupils, the Misses Ethel and Alice Dovey. The best vocal talent will be introduced and the concert will doubtless prove a rare musical treat to all who attend. Further announcements will be made later.

The Omaha Bee says: "The urn containing the ashes of the late Henry Pondt was received in the city Tuesday and immediately removed to the family residence. The urn is of stone, about a foot and a half high, and of graceful Grecian design. The bowl bears the simple inscription, 'Henry Pondt,' with the dates of his birth and death. The ashes are in a metallic box completely enclosed within the stone by the cementing of the top."

Editor Greenfield, of the defunct Weeping Water Regulator, has joined ranks with G. F. S. Burton of the Tribune, and is moving his presses and material into the latter's office.

## HE WANTS \$10,000

Adolph Steinkamp Sues Henry Gable For That Sum.

### WAS BOUND FOR VENEZUELA.

Simmons, the Money Order Forger, Intended to Leave For Other Climes With the Boodle He Had Stolen—Other Items.

#### Big Damage Suit Filed.

Adolph Steinkamp, through his attorney, E. H. Wooley, on Wednesday filed a suit for \$10,000 damages, in the district clerk's office, against Henry Gable, the Louisville farmer. It will be remembered that Gable, on the 15th of last July, shot at Steinkamp with a load of buckshot, several of the shot penetrating the latter's back. The case will in all probably be a long, legal battle and will be tried at the next term of district court.

#### More About Simmons.

The World-Herald contains an interview with Simmons, the man who forged the money orders here and at several other places, which is more complete than any heretofore published. Here is what Simmons says: "The authorities sent me word a few days ago that I was behind and must make up \$150. I made true and honest reports, but I was behind that amount that I had taken from time to time for money orders. Times had been hard and I had been able to get but little work from the farmers and I had gone on, hoping there would be grain buying this year, but there was not. I was cowardly and could not tell my wife about the notice that the office would be turned over to my bondsmen if I did not remit the \$150. I made out money orders, as you know, on Omaha, Council Bluffs, South Omaha, Woodbine, Logan and Plattsmouth. I don't know how the idea came into my head to do it. I hoped to get to get to New Orleans and cross to Cuba and go down to Venezuela, where I had an old friend. I thought I would take just enough money to pay my way and send the rest to my wife and tell her how I got it and leave it to her to keep it or give it back to the government. I did not spend any of the money I raised on the orders, which was \$550. I had, when arrested, \$600. The rest of it was my own money.

"I am sorry this got out before I could write my wife and tell her where I was. The postmaster at Plattsmouth suspected, because he said the writing of the order and my signature was the same. In Nebraska City they refused to cash the order because the 'identification waived' ought to have been written across the front, and in red ink. I don't know whether it had or not. I could have got away then, but I didn't try, somehow."

#### In District Court.

Judge Chapman Monday rendered a judgment in the divorce case of Hickson vs. Hickson, but the decree was in favor of the defendant, Mrs. Wm. Hickson.

The case of State vs. Henry Gabel, charged with shooting with intent to kill August Steinkamp, was continued until the next term of court.

Decree of foreclosure entered in the case of Plattsmouth Loan & Building association vs. H. P. Coolidge, et al.

Case of James M. Patterson, administrator of the estate of Ambrose Patterson, deceased, vs. W. H. Pickens, et al., decided in plaintiff's favor, and decree of foreclosure entered accordingly.

Coleman, the jeweler, Plattsmouth.

Burlington Excursion to Lincoln, Neb. Sunday, Oct. 6th, the B. & M. will run an excursion from Creston, Ia., to Lincoln. Fare, \$1.00 for the round trip. Train leaves Plattsmouth at 9:30 a. m., returning, leaves Lincoln at 7 p. m. Take your family and enjoy an outing at Lincoln Park. See the herd of buffalo, deer, and elk etc. Agnes Juvenile band of thirty-five members will give a concert at 3:00 p. m. Go and visit the capital city.

#### September Mortgage Record.

The mortgage record for the past month, as filed in the office of the register of deeds, is as follows: Farm mortgages—Filed, \$23,194; released, \$9,295.55. Town property mortgages—Filed, \$8,478 33; released \$2,460.85.

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

#### That Jail Delivery.

A few days ago a general jail delivery took place from the county bastle, in which two men accused of horse stealing and one (Kelly) believed to be a professional crook who was in for pocket-picking, made their escape by tearing up a portion of the iron cell floor, the jail floor proper and then tearing away a part of the basement wall.

Somebody was to blame for their escape; that is patent.

The man who is supposed to be the jailor, John Denson, lives above the jail, and boards the prisoners, in addition to carrying the keys to the jail. One would suppose that it would be the business of the jailor to pay some attention to see that prisoners did not escape, but Mr. Denson reported to me after the man got away that such was not his business—that all he was paid for was boarding the prisoners. In view of these facts I printed an article in the Weekly JOURNAL of last week in which I expressed the belief that Denson ought to be removed, and also blaming the sheriff for his share in the mismanagement, on the ground that if Denson had no responsibility for the safety of the prisoners the sheriff should have somebody there who would care for them, in lieu of the \$1.50 a day the law allowed him as jailor's fees. Not only that, I went before the county commissioners on Tuesday last and stated what I had heard and expressed the opinion that somebody was to blame for the escape of the prisoners, and that it was evident to me that Denson was not the proper man for that place.

The board endeavored to investigate the matter, and were told that nearly all day of the Sunday before the prisoners got away there was a noise of pounding heard in the jail, but that Denson was not there, and if he had been he could easily have prevented the escape; that City Marshal Dunn called at the jail several times during the day to get a city prisoner out, but could not find the jailor, and stated that he afterwards learned that Denson was asleep in the court house.

The board stated to me that they had endeavored to get the sheriff and Denson before them to get all the facts, but they were not able to do so. I told the board that I would meet the officers before them and make my statement, but the chairman said he was not able to find them. Personally, Sheriff Eikenbary blames the county board for the escape of the prisoners; because, he says, they have refused to make changes in the jail because of the expense attached, so the matter is in a muddle. It is apparent, however, that no adequate service is rendered the county for the \$1.50 a day allowed for jailor's fees.

In a personal sense I have nothing against either one of these officers, and dislike to criticize them; but this is not a personal matter. The safety of society depends on the certain punishment of criminals, and if officers can evade responsibility and trifle with the public with impunity it becomes a matter of concern to every citizen. Because I have tried to place the responsibility for this escape of prisoners where it belongs Sheriff Eikenbary and his deputy, Denson, have called me names, and evidently think that they can bulldoze me into silence; but they are mistaken, I can take their abuse and still go ahead trying to give the facts for the benefit of the public. An officer whose first weapon of defense for his course is abuse of his critics shows very poor judgment, to say the least.

My only interest in this matter is that of the citizen interested in the public well-being. Certainly if things go on as they have a change at the jail cannot come too soon.

C. W. SHERMAN.

#### Mr. Bentley's Lectures.

Hon. C. E. Bentley of Lincoln, chairman of the prohibition state committee, will be at Waterman's hall, October eighth and ninth, under the auspices of the local union. He will speak Tuesday evening on "Suffrage," a much-agitated topic in these days, in which all are interested. On Wednesday evening his subject will be "Prohibition," one of equal interest and importance. You are cordially invited to attend both of these lectures, and gain some new ideas along these lines from one of the most prominent public men in the state. Don't forget the date, Oct. 8th and 9th, at Waterman hall. Good music.

COMMITTEE.  
The county commissioners met in regular session at the court house Tuesday.

For farm loans, see J. M. Leyda. Reliable abstracts also furnished.

## IS IN A DEADLOCK.

The Judicial Convention at Nebraska City Is Undecided.

### FORTY-TWO BALLOTS TAKEN.

Each Delegation Voting Solid For Their Man—Convention May Adjourn Until Friday Morning—Frank Abel Is Captured.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Oct. 3, 4:30 p. m.—[Special to THE JOURNAL]—

The democratic judicial convention was called to order at two o'clock this afternoon. Hon. J. M. Patterson of Plattsmouth was elected chairman, and Charles Lloyd of Nebraska City secretary. The Cass and Otoe county delegations are each entitled to nineteen votes in the convention, and each delegation is voting solid for their men—Cass for Ramsey and Otoe for Hayden. Forty-two ballots have been taken at this hour (4:30) and the convention is in a deadlock. Some of the Cass county delegates are coming home on the evening train, and it is probable that the convention will take an adjournment until tomorrow.

#### Frank Abel Captured.

A telegram was received in this city last evening by Sheriff Eikenbary from Seward, Neb., stating that Frank Abel, one of the men who broke jail here last week, had been captured there, and asking that an officer be sent up after him. Deputy Sheriff Hyers departed for Seward this morning and will bring his prisoner back to this city tonight, providing he can make train connections. Abel is one of the brothers who borrowed a couple of horses belonging to a farmer out near Elmwood, and after riding them to Lincoln, the horses were turned loose.

#### Death of Professor Wise.

The Kansas City World had the following to say about the late Professor Wise, whose funeral occurred yesterday at Kansas City.

"Uriah W. Wise died at 7:30 o'clock Saturday at his residence, 1502 Broadway, of heart failure. He was 82 years of age and was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania. He graduated at the Washington and Jefferson college of Pennsylvania, and was successively lawyer, editor of the Washington (Penn.) Reporter and professor of Greek and Latin at the Mercer university of Macon, Georgia. He was a profound scholar and Christian gentleman and became well known during fourteen years' residence in this city.

"Mr. Wise leaves three children, Colin B. Wise, of Passaic, N. J.; Henry A. Wise, chief engineer of the Kansas City Stock Yards company, and Miss Flora B. Wise, who lives at the family home.

"The services were conducted by

Rev. Dr. Vassar, pastor of the First Baptist church, in which church Mr. Wise had been a deacon many years."

#### Gave the Boys Good Homes.

This morning's Lincoln Journal says: "Assistant Superintendent Isabella Spurlock of the Mother's Jewels' home at York passed through the city yesterday on the Burlington with two boys whom she was taking down the road to place in good homes. The boys were taken in charge ten years ago in Chicago and are now sixteen and seventeen years of age respectively. One will be placed with W. J. Hesser of Plattsmouth and the other with Mr. Sheriff of Nebraska City. Both are bright young fellows and appear to be anxious to do something to earn their own living. Mrs. Spurlock gave them excellent reputations."

#### Ikey Cohn May Die.

A few days ago, Ikey Cohn, nephew of Jacob Cohn, while engaged in a boyish altercation with some playmates was hit on the head by a small sized brick bat. At the time nothing much was thought of the blow beyond the severe scalp wound that it inflicted. Yesterday however the boy complained so of his head hurting him that Dr. Whitten was sent for. On examination it was found that young Cohn's skull was crushed and a large piece of bone was removed from the brain. The doctor thinks the young man has one chance in ten for recovery. Nebraska City News.

#### A New Departure.

A. P. Thomas & Son is the style of a new grocery store and meat market just opened in the Fitzgerald block. In its arrangement the place is a marvel of neatness, beauty and good taste. The shelving and counters are painted a cherry red and they make a pretty contrast with the light-colored articles that fill the shelves. The establishment is the first in the city that is modeled after the custom in vogue in eastern cities of conducting the meat and grocery business together. THE JOURNAL predicts that it will be a success from the start.

T. J. Thomas, the manager, is entitled to great credit for putting this plan into operation, and his progress will be watched with much interest, as it is a new departure for Plattsmouth in the business line. Surely if neatness, cleanliness and close attention to business is any warrant for success, this new firm ought to win custom at once.

#### Norval For Justice.

About eight hundred republicans met in state convention at Lincoln yesterday and nominated the following ticket: For justice of the supreme court, T. L. Norval, Seward; regents of the state university, C. H. Morrill, Lincoln; H. L. Gould, Ogallala. Large hunks of harmony is reported.

A tea train composed of twenty cars passed through the city yesterday. It came in over the Burlington from the Northern Pacific. Four more trains of the same kind are expected within the next week.—Lincoln Journal.

Coleman repairs watches. Platts-mouth.

\$15,000! \$15,000! \$15,000!  
--- WORTH OF ---

CLOTHING,  
Manufactured for the Western Trade  
and Bought for Spot Cash Prices by  
ELSON, THE CASH CLOTHIER.

Fall Overcoats, \$2.00.	Boys' Suits, \$2.50.	Business Suits \$5.00.
Children's Suits \$1.90.	MEN'S Worsted Pants, \$1.00.	MEN'S SHIRTS 50c.
Men's Gloves, 35c.	Men's Wool Hats 35c.	Men's Shoes, \$1.00.

Our stock is the largest and best selected stock ever brought to Cass county, AT BED-ROCK PRICES. ELSON, Cash Clothier, Opposite Court House, Plattsmouth, Neb.