

# THE PLATTSMOUTH WEEKLY JOURNAL.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

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## AN AWFUL ENDING

While Temporarily Insane, Fred Kuhl Commits Suicide.

WAS SUFFERING FROM LA GRIP.

A Fearful Tragedy at the Farm of Wm. Martin, Three Miles South of Plattsmouth—Other Local Affairs of General Interest.

### A Horrible Suicide.

The people of this city were startled last Saturday by the report that Fred Kuhl, a young farmer living down on the big island, in the Missouri river, had committed suicide at the residence of Wm. Martin, three miles south of town. Dr. Schildknecht and Sheriff Holloway immediately drove down to the Martin farm, and the truth of the report was verified.

The facts learned are about as follows: About six o'clock Saturday morning Kuhl requested Mrs. Martin to go down stairs after some chips, with which to start a fire. A few minutes afterward a loud report was heard, and, upon re-entering the room, a horrible sight met the gaze of Mrs. Martin. Kuhl was stretched upon the floor, with his entire face blown off. He was lying upon his back, and a musket, which had been standing in a corner of the room, was lying across his body. A short stick near the corpse told the rest of the story. He had evidently walked over to the corner where the gun stood, and deliberately placed the muzzle under his chin and pulled the trigger with the stick. The ceiling and wall were covered with clotted blood and pieces of flesh and brains.

It was decided not to hold an inquest, as the man had undoubtedly committed the rash deed while temporarily insane. Kuhl had been suffering for some time from a severe attack of the grip and some throat trouble. When he was first taken sick he was removed to the Martin farm, where it was more convenient for the physician to attend him. Mr. Kuhl was about twenty-seven years of age, and was married some five years ago to a daughter of Jas. Price. He leaves a wife and two small children. Kuhl has resided in this vicinity since childhood, and, up to the time of his marriage, had made his home at the Martin farm. He was a son of Captain Kuhl.

A peculiar incident in connection with the Fred Kuhl suicide was the fact that on Sunday, while the body was being interred, Mrs. Kuhl, the widow of the unfortunate man, gave birth to a child.

### Ordered Out of Town.

Carl Pankonin, the well-known Louisville farmer, has been having a peck of trouble with his son-in-law, Frank Wanamaker, for the past two or three years. Wanamaker, who is a worthless sort of fellow, has been hanging around Mr. Pankonin's place ever since he married the latter's daughter, and refused to do any work. He also made threats to take the life of his father-in-law, unless he provided him with money. This caused Pankonin to have Wanamaker placed under bonds to keep the peace. Last week County Attorney Polk went up to Louisville to make some disposal of the matter. The result was that Wanamaker was given a ticket for Brock, Nemaha county, where he says he has friends and can obtain work, and told to "git" and he "got." He was also emphatically informed that if he showed his face in Louisville again he would be turned over to the tender mercies of Jailor Holloway.

### The New "Sundown."

Capt. Dabb loaded his gasoline launch, "Sundown," on a pair of bobs last Tuesday and hauled her down to the river bank. She will be launched as soon as the river is clear of ice. It is hoped by Mr. Dabb's many friends that the "Sundown II" will fare better than did her namesake, which burned to the water's edge several months ago in a very mysterious manner. Coon Valley very kindly tendered the use of himself and his team and assisted very materially in getting the boat down to the river bank.

### Who Was He?

A young Cass county farmer lost \$400 in the gambling joints of South Omaha Saturday.—Omaha Bee.

Farm loans made at lowest rates. T. H. Pollock, over First Nat'l Bank.

## What the Midland Monthly Says.

The Midland monthly for March, a magazine of literature and art published at Des Moines, is before us, and is deserving of a high place in the ranks of literature. Its illustrated articles show a high grade of artistic skill, while its romances are bright, sparkling and very readable. A very readable sketch of the women's clubs of Nebraska, embellished with cuts of prominent members, appears in this number. Half-tone engravings of Mrs. Laura Moore Woodford of Weeping Water, Mrs. Mary Bryan of Lincoln, Mrs. Elia Peattie of Omaha, and Mrs. Belle Stoutenborough of this city appear among the others. Of the Plattsmouth Woman's club the writer says:

"The club at Plattsmouth, organized December, 1894, grew out of a history class led by Mrs. Belle Stoutenborough, who became its president. She was for several years a member of the Crete Round Table and also of the Omaha Cleofan. She is a close student, clear thinker, and good speaker. Her endeavors are not limited to women, for she is a leader of an enthusiastic club of boys who study English history. Mrs. Isabel Ricey is a writer of ability and a leading member of the club."

### W. of W. Installation.

Thursday evening the newly-elected officers of the Woodmen of the World were duly installed. H. Guy Livingston being the installing officer. The affair was announced as being public, and fully three hundred people were present. A very interesting program, consisting of musical selections and recitations, was rendered, and the entertainment concluded with a grand banquet, the entire audience being invited to partake thereof. The following officers were installed:

Council Commander—J. L. Root. Vice Lieut.—S. P. Holloway. Banker—C. M. Butler. Clerk—O. Guthmann. Manager—Thom. Walling. Escort—J. E. Palmeter. Watchman—Jos. Leek. Sentry—Fred Kroehler.

### February Mortgage Record.

The Cass county mortgage record for the month of February, as compiled in the register of deeds' office, is as follows:

FARM PROPERTY.	
Filed.....	\$51,576.44
Released.....	22,778.75
TOWN AND CITY PROPERTY.	
Filed.....	\$6,021.95
Released.....	6,090.00

It will be seen from the above that while the farm mortgages filed amount to considerable more than those released, in the towns it is quite different, more being released than filed.

### A Farewell Party.

Miss May Vallery was tendered a very happy surprise last Saturday evening by about thirty of her young friends, at the cosy home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith, on East Vine street. The occasion for the social gathering was the fact that Miss Vallery will remove with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Vallery, to their farm in a short time. Music, games and refreshments constituted an evening of rare amusement, and the guests all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### Pleasant Birthday Surprise.

Last Saturday, Feb. 29, Frank Hewitt, the jeweler at Snyder's store, was thirty-six years of age, it being his first birthday in nine years. In the evening nearly a hundred of his friends, including the high school band, of which he is instructor, and the city band, tendered him a very pleasant surprise at his home, on West Oak street. The evening was devoted to music and social chat, and excellent refreshments were served.

### Shuts Off the Land Suits.

A telegram was received at Burlington headquarters Tuesday from General Manderson, announcing that the president had approved the land bill. This shuts off the land suits against the Burlington and against those who have purchased Nebraska lands from the Burlington company. General Manderson left Washington yesterday for home.—Omaha Bee.

### Spiked For One Year.

Joseph Wallace Cannon, who forged an order on Jacob Sichel, this afternoon was arraigned before Judge Ramsey, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. Cannon says he will not commit suicide until after he has served his term.—Nebraska City News.

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

## DAY'S CHRONICLE.

What the People In and Around Plattsmouth Are Doing.

ARE CHARGED WITH BURGLARY

Jim Smith Arrested in Omaha, Charged With Highway Robbery—Is Well Known in Plattsmouth Police Court.

### A Trio of Alleged Burglars.

Sheriff Holloway returned on the noon train Friday from Union, having in custody three young men, who are charged with burglary. The prisoners, who gave their names as George Dee, George Finley and Chas. Sloan, were arraigned before Justice Archer Friday afternoon and entered a plea of not guilty. Dee is charged with entering the house of Henry Pell, near Union, on Wednesday afternoon and stealing a rifle and a razor, the articles being valued at \$9.50. Finley and Sloan are charged with stealing articles to the value of \$11.25 from P. A. Hicks' house, near Union. Neither of the men arrested look to be over twenty-two years of age, and young Sloan says his home is in Madison, Wis., and that his father is an attorney. He also claims to be a grandson of Judge Sloan of Washington, D. C., and says he has only been "on the road" about two months.

### Jim Is a Robber.

"Stuttering Jim" Smith, a negro, was arrested in Omaha Monday on a charge of highway robbery and bound over to the district court. He was arrested last September on a similar charge, but was dismissed by Judge Ben Baker on the ground that he was insane. Smith is well known in this city, having been under arrest here a number of times on various charges. His last arrest in Plattsmouth was for a very serious offense, which, had the charge been proven, would have landed him in the penitentiary for a number of years. While Jim is not an intellectual giant, he is not considered insane by the local police.

### One of the Prisoners Dismissed.

The preliminary hearing of Geo. Finley, Geo. Dean and Chas. Sloan, the young men charged with burglarizing a couple of farm houses down near Union, was occupying Justice Archer's attention Monday. The testimony showed that none of the stolen property was found upon the person of young Sloan, and, upon motion of Attorney Graves, who appears for the defense, he was dismissed.

### Finley and Dean Bound Over.

George Finley and George Dean, two of the young men arrested down near Union for burglarizing a couple of farmers' houses, were bound over to the district court Monday afternoon by Justice Archer under \$500 bonds each, to answer to a charge of burglary. Finley and Dean each claim to be under twenty years of age.

### Was An Amazing Marriage.

"The county attorney of Cass county was at the court house this morning investigating the marriage license records, with a view to bringing criminal proceedings against Alfred Johnson of Louisville on the charge of perjury. About three weeks ago Johnson and a girl named Hilda Carlson went to living together without being married. He is thirty-three and she is thirteen. Her parents made no objection to the illicit union but the people of the village held an indignation meeting and through a committee told Johnson he must either marry the girl or return her to the home of her parents within twenty-four hours. Johnson and the girl came to Omaha February 18 and he applied for a marriage license. Asked the age of Hilda, he said she was sixteen, and was then surprised to learn that the consent of her father would be necessary before a license could be issued. He begged for the license and reluctantly left on being told that the law would not be violated. He returned three days later accompanied by Hilda and her father. He again made affidavit he was 16, and the father gave his consent to the marriage. Judge Baxter then performed the ceremony. On returning to Louisville Johnson was careful to make it known that he had been legally married, but the people were inclined not to believe it, knowing that the law prohibits the marriage of persons under sixteen years of age. They consulted with the county attorney, who then came to Omaha and

here learned that the secret of the marriage was Johnson's affidavit that the girl was sixteen."—Omaha Bee.

County Attorney Polk states that if he can secure positive proof that the Carlson girl is not over fifteen years of age, he will furnish the county attorney with the facts, and that official will prosecute Johnson for perjury.

### Boy Fatally Shot.

A dispatch from Bellevue to the World-Herald says: "Roy Smith, a Bellevue youth, about seventeen years of age, was accidentally shot while with Will Trent and Arthur Mountain in a boat on the river near La Platte. Roy accidentally touched the trigger of his gun, causing it to empty its contents into his right side. The charge ranged upward into his shoulder and a hole the size of a man's fist was torn in his side. His comrades got him to a near-by farm house as quickly as they could and Dr. Buel was sent for. An operation was performed and the last report received was that he would probably die."

### School Report.

Report of school taught in District No. 27, for the term commencing Dec. 9, 1895, and ending Feb. 28, 1896:

Number months taught, 3; number days taught, 60; total enrollment, 35; total attendance in days, 1,709; average daily attendance, 28.

Standing of class A derived from recitation. Scale 100. Average for term in all branches studied: Philip Meisinger 98, Frank Bergman 98, John Bergman 98, Lewis Meisinger 98, Florence Murray 97, Ida Murray 96, George Oberle 96, Edgar Barker 95, Laura Murray 95, Anna Bergman 95, Alpha Vallery 95, Leonard Murray 94, Myrtle Vallery 94.

A. H. BUSHNELL, Teacher.

### How Is This?

A tin box filled with gold dust, valued at \$300, was uncovered by William Austin while digging a foundation for his home near Plattsmouth.—Omaha Bee.

Diligent search by a JOURNAL reporter failed to locate either Mr. Austin or his tin box, up to the hour of going to press, and it is thought that some one has again taken advantage of John Robbins' youth and innocence.

### Professor Sherman's Lecture.

Prof. L. A. Sherman, of the Nebraska state university will deliver a lecture at the Presbyterian church in this city on next Sabbath evening, his subject being "The Spiritual Law in the Natural World." Several of the churches will unite in the service that evening and attend the Presbyterian church. Prof. Sherman is a very fluent and earnest speaker and will undoubtedly have a large audience.

### Taken Under Adversity.

The case wherein the depositors of the Commercial bank at Weeping Water seek to oust John Donelan as receiver, has been taken under advisement for ten days by Judge Ramsey. The arguments were all completed Saturday afternoon, and Mr. Donelan was given ten days in which to prepare a statement of the condition of the bank, when a decision will be made.

### Jury Can't Agree.

Chas. Sloan, charged with vagrancy, was being tried before a jury in Justice Archer's court this afternoon. Several witnesses were on the stand and testified that young Sloan was begging. The arguments were completed at about three o'clock and the case given to the jury. At four o'clock the jury had not yet arrived at a verdict.

### Bryan and Laws.

In reply to the invitation extended to him, Hon. Wm. J. Bryan has accepted the same and has named Saturday, March 7, in the evening, as the time when he will address the people here on "bimetallism." Hon. Gilbert L. Laws will accompany him and also make an address. The local committee is expected to make the necessary arrangements.

Joshua Lynn of Union died Saturday morning from the effects of injuries received in a runaway a day or two ago. Mr. Lynn was a man well along in years. He was an old settler in the county, and was the owner of the town plat of Union. He was in Plattsmouth less than a week ago, enjoying his usual health.

Miss Kate Hempel departed Friday morning for St. Louis, where she will make the spring selections for a large Lincoln millinery establishment. Miss Hempel is an expert trimmer, and her excellent judgment is recognized, not only at home, but abroad.

## THE DAY'S DOINGS

What People Are Doing and Saying Around the Town.

A HOUSE ROBBED YESTERDAY.

The House of Joe Hula Entered, While the Family Were Attending a Funeral and Some Money Stolen—Other Notes.

### A House Robbed.

Yesterday morning while the family of Jos. Hula, residing in West Plattsmouth, was attending the funeral of the late Mrs. Ublik, some sneak thief or thieves entered his house and stole about seven dollars. The police were notified, but as yet no arrests have been made. A couple of boys living out in that vicinity are suspected of being the perpetrators of the theft, and are being closely watched.

### Coasting Accident.

Wesley Bookmeyer, a young man employed in the B. & M. paint shop at Havelock, was coasting with a number of boys out in West Plattsmouth last evening. The boys were sliding down a steep hill on a large "bob sled," and were going at a terrific speed, when the sled struck an obstacle and turned over and scattered the occupants of the bob all over the vicinity. Young Bookmeyer was thrown under the sled and his right leg was severely bruised near the thigh. He was hauled down to a physician's office on the sled and the wound was dressed. No bones were broken, but his leg is badly swollen, and Wesley will not soon forget his experience.

### Presides With Dignity.

The equity term of district court which is now being held in this city is proving almost as interesting as when cases are tried to a jury. Judge Ramsey presides with dignity and is giving the attorneys a few instructions as to how to dispose of business in a business like manner. During the proceedings this morning E. F. Warren had almost a similar experience to the one he had yesterday when Seymour made reference to his fracturing the truth. Mr. Hayden, in his cool, deliberate manner gave Mr. Warren a severe "roasting" and added that the opposing attorney was guilty of the same offense with which he was charged yesterday.—Nebraska City News.

### A Big Land Suit.

District Attorney Sawyer, on behalf of the government, has begun suit in federal court against the Burlington Railroad company to restore to the public domain land estimated at 200,000 acres in North Central Nebraska claimed by the company under the act of congress of 1864. The government bases its suit on the ground that these lands were never ceded, but that the road took possession through the failure of the government to provide the number of sections agreed upon along the line in the South Platte country. The railroad company has long since disposed of much of the disputed property and nearly 1,500 settlers will be affected by the suit.

### Bridge Contract Awarded.

The county commissioners this afternoon opened the bids for the bridge building for the ensuing year. There were three bids filed, as follows: J. Ward & Co., Ottawa, Iowa, \$2.95 per running foot; J. R. Sheeley & Co., Lincoln, \$2.91 per foot; A. B. Todd, Plattsmouth, \$3.25 per foot. The Lincoln firm's bid being the lowest, the contract was awarded to them. This is the same firm that has done the Cass county bridging for the past year, but their bid this year was twenty-three cents per foot cheaper.

### Burglars Again Visit Union.

A special from Union to the World-Herald says: "Burglars made another raid here last night, but got very little for their trouble. They broke into La Rue's blacksmith shop, probably in search of tools. They also visited Bauer's harness shop and Du Bois' elevator, and finally went into McLeod's they got some small change and cigars. No trace of the burglars has been found."

The Nehawka Register of last week contained an obituary notice upon the life and character of Mrs. Fidelia P. Sheldon, mother of Lawson and Amsdel Sheldon, aged eighty-nine years. She was born, reared and married in Vermont, removing to Nebraska in 1869, and has resided here since.

## PERSONAL, POLITICAL AND PERTINENT.

Just to show what a great change a short space of time can bring forth we wish to recall a little circumstance that took place in this city some two months ago, wherein a young man from Scribner and a young tonsorial artist and his lady love played the leading roles. The Scribner lad fell heir to a considerable sum of money from an eastern estate, which was evenly shared with his lady and gentleman pals. The trio boarded a west-bound Union Pacific train, and landed in Salt Lake City with money to "throw at the birds." Yesterday the Scribner "jasper" returned to Fremont on the front end of a blind baggage, and it is stated that he is financially embarrassed. He is an older but wiser man.—Fremont Herald.

Even the few lawyers who opposed the election of Judge B. S. Ramsey to the bench last fall are among those who praise him the loudest now. It seems so nice to have a man on the bench who treats fairly, honestly and all alike, it matters not who they are. This makes it exceedingly pleasant for those who practice at the bar and those who have business in the court. The News was right, as all are now fully convinced, that Judge Ramsey is the proper man for that place.—Nebraska City News.

Hundreds of people go to a new mining camp just as a penniless boy goes to town on circus day, and have the same opportunities. They can watch, and wish, and look at the big tent and cry. The place for a penniless person, young or old, is at home, and among friends and acquaintances.—Cripple Creek Journal.

The recent snow was general throughout the state and has already given slight impetus to trade. There is every prospect that a full quota of moisture will be vouchsafed to Nebraska farmers this spring, which will place them again on the highway to a prosperous year.—Bee.

The famous reinsman, W. H. Doble, who is dying, was the first man to drive a trotter faster than 2:17. This feat he accomplished in 1872 at Mystic park, when he drove Goldsmith Maid against Lucy in 2:16 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and beat by a quarter of a second the time his more famous son, Budd Doble, had made with the Maid. All of his sons have become celebrated as drivers.

Your greatest enemy is the pretended friend who tells you the unpleasant things people say about you. They are the people who are causing heart-burning and discord in the churches, societies and everywhere, and they ought to be invited out of your house every time they do these things.

Train your eyes to rest on the bright spots in life. Pass the darkness on the other side. One of the sunniest places on earth is the spot made sacred by the hallowed influences of those we love in our humble home.—Nebraska City News.

### NEBRASKA HAPPENINGS.

Geneva ice dealers obtained their summer supply from Crete, Ulysses, and as far north as Pierre.

J. B. Donaldson, a former California lawyer, is publishing a lively paper—the Meridian Star—at Cozad.

The little son of G. M. Brooks of Tryon was thrown from a broncho and per consequence suffered a dislocated ankle.

Milk cows are in great demand and most of the creameries over the country have found it necessary to advance the price of milk.

The Pawnee City Press, which has run heretofore as a daily and weekly, will hereafter discontinue both and publish a semi-weekly.

Grand Master Workman Tate of the A. O. U. W., has been absent a month attending the grand lodges of Indiana Ohio and Illinois. He has returned.

As a result of the revival at Wayne sixty members have been added to the Methodist church, thirty-six to the Baptist and as many more to the Presbyterian.

A grocery firm at Geneva handled 36,000 eggs from January 20 to March 1. The hens of Filmore county are doing their share to bring about the return of prosperity.

FOR SALE—Good, second-hand two-chair barber outfit—cheap. Address, KUHNEY BROS., Plattsmouth, Neb.