

Local News.

Alfalfa seed at Watkinson's.
 Good work harness for \$14.00 at T. M. Reed's.
 John Wall from Arcadia is in the city today.
 J. B. O'Bryan has purchased a new buggy.
 For choice seed oats enquire of W. S. Walte.
 E. Milburn was down from Arcadia Wednesday.
 New buggies for sale at less than cost at Watkinson's.
 W. J. Muellek went to Arcadia last Friday evening.
 W. J. Muellek drove to Litchfield Wednesday afternoon.
 T. L. Pilger shipped 34 cases of eggs via the U. P. Wednesday.
 W. Parker of Grand Island was here on business yesterday.
 M. L. Fries of Arcadia was in Loup City Saturday and Monday.
 The interior of J. Froelichs store building is being re-arranged.
 T. L. Pilger has reduced the price of Kerosene Oil to 12 cents a gallon.
 Garden seed; new stock just in at the old reliable Seed store, Watkinson.
 You can buy a good pair of unlined gloves for 25 cents at A. E. Chase's.
 Just received a fine line of shirts. Price, from 25 cents up. A. E. CHASE.
 Six-inch iron bolts 1 cent each, longer ones three for 5 cents. A. E. CHASE.
 Photographs 75 cents per doz. at Leschinsky's gallery.
 T. L. Pilger is selling all goods for cash or produce only. Positively no credit.
 Carpets a full line of samples carpet rugs, lace and chenille curtains at Watkinson.
 The little child of Henry Hizer died last Sunday and was buried Monday.
 James Gray and wife, living on Clear Creek have been very sick but are reported to be much better.
 Mr. Tate of the firm of Potter & Tate of Litchfield is doing business at the county seat to-day.
 Hats—a fine assortment. Forty-nine cents buys a good fedora. Any kind at corresponding figures. A. E. CHASE.
 Do you need a wagon, buggy, disk harrow, seeder, plow or harrow. If so, you should see T. M. Reed.
 All the neckwear in the house, consisting of over 500 pieces, below cost until April 1. A. E. CHASE.
 Do you need a washing machine, clothes wringer, wash boiler, tinware or anything in that line. If so call on T. M. Reed.
 The orchestra dance was a good success, both socially and financially, and many complimentary remarks were made of the music.
 J. H. Travis wishes us to announce to the public that he will be located in the Stahl building with his entire stock of groceries Monday next.
 A weed in the garden can be easily destroyed when it first starts. Consumption can be nipped in the bud by One Minute Cough Cure. Odendahl Bros.
 John Travis is moving his household goods and will hereafter occupy the new residence which Mrs. Travis purchased from E. G. Kreichbaum. We understand that he will move his large stock of general merchandise soon into the store on main street.

John Horn of Rockyville was in town Monday.
 Harry Taylor is installed as clerk at Watkinson's hardware store.
 A good copper bottom wash boiler for 84 cents at Watkinson's.
 W. Pedler of Caro spent Sunday with his brother in this city.
 Mrs. Pemberton returned home from a short visit last week.
 Mrs. Jerdan of Boelus visited Mrs. Frank Perdue last week.
 Miss Lillian Nightengale went to Grand Island last Friday noon.
 Mrs. W. J. Ditto and daughter Druzilla returned from Wauseon Ohio last week.
 Don't forget the brick hardware store for prices on hardware, tinware and furniture.
 A. Boone the optician will be in Loup City March 25 and 26. Office in Chase's drug store.
 Thomas Inks is repairing his large dray wagon by having a new floor put in the box.
 Dar Grow and Gene Patton acted the feminine part to perfection at the masquerade and fooled everyone.
 Mrs. L. A. Rosseter returned to Grand Island Monday morning to take medical treatment.
 Dr. Sumner Davis, the Oculist and Tourist at Grand Island will be absent from his office until about May 15.
 Mr. Leschinsky our photographer is still making his first class photographs at 75 cents per doz. Don't miss to get a doz taken.
 The subject for next Sunday's lesson for the B. Y. P. U. is the way of darkness, a temperance topic. Service 6.30 Everybody welcome.
 No ONEDIES No one dies of Pulmonary disease, the result of cold, who takes "77" in time. For sale by all druggists, 25 cents.
 Mr. Ehrmann, clerk at the St. Elmo for several years fell and broke one of his ribs this week while moping the hotel office.
 John Eggers returned from Grand Island Monday and we understand will open up his meat market. We are pleased to welcome Mr. Eggers back.
 Put your thinking cap on and come to the Epworth League social to be given Tuesday March 23, 97. The place of holding same will be announced Sunday. Admission 10 cents two 19 cents.
 Mrs. Werts cousins who have been visiting here for a few days returned home yesterday.
 Comfort To California.
 Every Tuesday evening, a tourist sleeping car for Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Los Angeles leaves Omaha and Lincoln via the Burlington Route.
 It is carpeted; upholstered in rattan; has spring seats and backs and is provided with curtains, bedding, towels, soap etc. An experienced excursion conductor and a uniformed Pullman porter accompany it through to the Pacific coast.
 While neither as expensively finished nor as fine to look at as a sleeper, it is just as good to ride in. Second class tickets are honored and the price of a berth, wide enough and big enough for two, is very reasonable.
 For further information see A. F. WERTS, B & M Agent.

Mitchell and Ketchum were homesteaders, living on Clear Creek in the edge of Custer County, three quarters of a mile from Lee's Park, where they had started a settlement, sometime previous. The Ketchum home-stead is now known as the Sperrie farm.
 Mitchell was sixty-three years of age, who came from Merrick county. Ketchum had resided in the State for several years and had worked at his trade, that of a blacksmith, but having decided to go to farming he entered a homestead. For sometime there had been trouble between the Olives and Ketchum. In the attempt to frighten or drive the settlers away, they found Ketchum to courageous to be frightened and to quick and accurate in the use of firearms to be driven successfully. Between Stevens, or Bob Olive, and Ketchum, there had been a great deal of difficulty. Stevens, as he was then known, accused Ketchum of cattle stealing, and threatened to kill him. Some days previous to the trouble that resulted in the death of Stevens, one Manly Caple, who formerly lived at Loup City had been arrested on the charge of stealing cattle, and in his confession seemed to implicate Ami Ketchum.
 Stevens, or Bob Olive, was well known as a desperado and it was also known that he and Ketchum were enemies. Yet Sheriff Anderson of Buffalo County made him a Deputy and gave him a warrant for the arrest of Ketchum. This warrant was sworn out by some member of the Olive gang, and it has been a question, whether it was gotten up in good faith, or merely as a pretense to get him into the custody of the Olives.
 Stevens engaged three others to accompany him, all rough and desperate men, among whom was Barney Armstrong. They proceeded to the house of Ketchum arrived there on Wednesday morning Nov. 27., 1878. Mitchell and Ketchum were getting ready on that morning to go to a neighbors to return a bull they had been keeping. Mrs. Mitchell was preparing to go with them. When they were nearly ready to depart a stranger rode up and asked Ketchum who was a blacksmith to shoe his horse. Ketchum told him that he could not on that day and asked to return on the next morning which he promised to do and rode off. It has since been supposed that he came there to see if his intended victims were at home. Mitchell and Ketchum had put their rifles into the wagon, hoping to see some game on their journey. Ketchum also took his revolver, which he always carried from the fact that Stevens had threatened his life. Mrs. Mitchell took her place on the wagon seat while the men were tying the bull to the axle of the wagon; she observed a party of men riding toward them but it attracted no particular attention as they were often visited by land seekers. As these men rode up they dashed along four abreast and when they came near began shooting. Stevens, or Bob Olive was the first to fire and as he did so called to Ketchum to throw up his hands. For reply Ketchum drew his pistol and at his first shot Stevens fell forward in his saddle mortally wounded. Meanwhile the other men kept on shooting and Ketchum was wounded in the arm. Mitchell reached into the wagon secured his rifle and began firing, but Stevens now turned about and rode off and he was followed by the remaining cowboys. There were from twenty-five to thirty shots fired but only with the effect stated. Mitchell and Ketchum started at once with their families to Merrick county. The next morning after their arrival there, upon the advice of friends started, for Custer county to give themselves up and stand a trial for the killing of Stevens they left Mrs Mitchell and the children with friends in Merrick county on their way when they reached Loup City they visited Judge Wall for legal advice. Mr. Wall advised them to go no further, as the cowboys were waiting prepared to lynch them. Mr. Wall knew well the disposition of the Olive brothers and their band of lawless cowboys and he told them that they were in great danger and that he could not give them the needed protection. It was evident that the outlaws would soon be after them so for temporary safety the following plan was hit upon. Jim Snyder, one of the early pioneers had a claim and a sod cabin in the foot hills about four miles south east of Loup City. Jim said, "I may not be at home but you may go there and you will find milk, bread and meat. Make yourself as comfortable as you can."
 That night the outlaws came. They surrounded Wall's house thinking that Mitchell and Ketchum were somewhere about the premises in hiding. Mr. Wall crept out of the house, and across Dead Horse Creek, where he mounted a horse and rode to the Snyder homestead. He told Mitchell and Ketchum, that the outlaws were after them, and advised that the two go east, and north into the hills, keeping off the trail, and out of any settlement as much as possible. Wall then returned home and crept into the house again. The outlaws stood guard and searched around the premises until satisfied that they were not there, and in the afternoon returned to Kearney. One of the men, while standing guard with the muzzle of his gun resting on his foot accidentally discharged the weapon and shot his second toe off.
 When Mitchell and Ketchum left the Snyder home-stead they took the direction above indicated which led them through the hills and on Oak Creek. They first went to the farm house of Mr. Dixon and there inquired where the school house was in which John Wall was teaching. The old man Mitchell was very much exhausted from his long tramp and Ketchum's wounded arm was painning him very much. They had travelled nearly all night, and sought a place of refuge where they might be out of danger, and rest up. They reached the school house and made known their trouble to John Wall. John, little knowing the danger, told them that he thought they would be quite safe to remain in that neighborhood, and so they stopped at the house of John R. Baker in the east part of Sherman County.
 After I. P. Olive and his cow-boys returned to Kearney. Olive offered a reward of \$700, for the arrest of Mitchell and Ketchum, and several sheriffs among whom were Crew, of Haward; Gillan of Keith; Anderson, of Buffalo; and Letcher of Merrick; were anxious to capture them, that they might receive the reward. Letcher and Crew however, having traced them, to the Baker home-stead, made the arrest one morning as they were about to sit down to breakfast. The prisoners at first, signified their willingness to go with them, but refused to give up their arms, but they were finally persuaded to do so. After they were captured and in the hands of Crew and Letcher these officers were unwilling to incur the responsibility of taking them to Custer County and turning them over to blood-thirsty cow-boys, therefore, they were finally taken to Buffalo County jail in Kearney and placed in charge of Capt. Anderson, sheriff of that county.
 I. P. Olive, had given the warrant for their arrest, issued in Custer County into the hands of Barney Gillan sheriff of Keith County, to serve. The prisoners had engaged T. Darnell of St. Paul Nebr. and E. C. Calkins, of Kearney, as their attorneys. The feeling in Kearney at this time was against Mitchell and Ketchum, who were represented as having killed Stevens, while he was fulfilling his duty as an officer of the law.
 A question arose among the sheriffs as to the division of the money offered as a reward, which Olive had declined paying until the prisoners were delivered in Custer County. It was finally arranged that Gillan, since he held the warrant for their arrest, should take the prisoners to Custer county, and he promised to notify their attorneys, Calkins and Darnell, so that they could accompany them. As Gillan was a sheriff

and his desperate character then not known, even these attorneys did not anticipate any serious difficulty.
 On the forenoon of the 10th day of December, Darnell, fearing that the prisoners were about to be taken away, kept close watch, until after the emigrant train came in. In the meantime Gillan had taken the prisoners from the jail and soon hustled them onto the cars Darnell telegraphed to Gillan at Elm Creek asking him if he would hold the prisoners at Plum Creek, until the arrival of the next train from the east. Gillan replied that he would do so. He also telegraphed to attorney McNamer at Plum Creek to prevent, if possible, any violence that might befall the prisoners. Plum Creek was the home of I. P. Olive, and here he was surrounded by many friends and employees. They, with wagons, met the party as they got off the train, and, putting the prisoners into the wagon, started at once for Custer county. McNamer and others followed for some distance, when the party separated, some going in one direction and some in another. They were followed until after dark, when the trail was lost. The Olive party kept on, all coming together on the South Loup river, about five miles from Olive's ranch, where they went through the process of transferring the prisoners from Gillan to Olive. Among those who took the prisoners were Bion Brown Pedrow Dominicus and Dennis Gartrell. The party proceeded to Devil's Canon, Olive riding ahead and Gartrell driving the wagon. Olive stopped under a large elm tree, two ropes were thrown over a branch, and Gartrell tied one around Ketchum's neck, and Dominicus tied the other around Mitchell's neck. The ropes were not prepared with slip nooses, but were simply tied that their agony might be prolonged. The prisoners were handcuffed together. Ketchum was first drawn up. Olive caught up a rifle and shot Mitchell. Olive and Gartrell then caught hold of the rope and drew Mitchell up. Fisher and Brown pulled on Ketchum's rope. A fire was then kindled under them, and the bodies frightfully burned. The next day the bodies were found. Ketchum was still hanging with his legs burned nearly to a scrambling condition. Mitchell's rope had either burned off or had broken and one of his arms was burned off to the shoulder.
 A delegation of four or five men, from Loup City, among whom were John Swain, Lewis Bechthold, and Ben Snyder, went to help get the bodies.

Continued next week with an account of the capture and trial of the Olive band, also story of the reckless adventure, at Loup City, of Guinlittie and the "Doc" Middleton gang.

The Golden OPPORTUNITY

—of the season—

AT PILGERS' LOUP CITY, - - NEB.

RARE BARGAINS IN Groceries, Dry Goods, Shoes

and everything kept in a first class store.

All goods sold for cash only

20 lbs Granulated sugar for	\$1.00
26 " New Orleans " "	1.00
Kerosene oil, per gal. - - -	.12
All package Coffee - - -	.15
Eight bar any kind of soap	.25
Three cans corn or tomatoes	.25
Arcadia Bakers' Fancy flour	
" Cream Patent "	
Corn meal - - - - -	.15
Choice prunes, 20 lbs for	1.00
Extra choice prunes, 13 lbs	1.00
Best oat meal, 8 lbs for	.25
Four lbs choice raisins for	.25
Apples per bushel - - -	.75

Highest Price Paid for Butter and Eggs.

Don't fail to come and get bargains in every line.

T. L. PILGER,
NEW YORK STORE
Loup City, : Neb.

FACTS CONCERNING

THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF SHERMAN COUNTY.

Continued from last week.

MURDER OF MITCHELL AND KETCHUM.

One of the darkest pages in the history of the early settlement of Western Nebraska was the murder of Luther M. Mitchell and Ami Ketchum by the Olive gang in the month of November 1878.

One of the most wealthy of the cattle owners of Western Nebraska was I. P. Olive, who owned many thousand head of cattle that found pasturage in Custer county. He had from time to time lost a great many animals undoubtedly stolen by cattle thieves.

For this reason he became the prime mover in the attempt to expel the settlers who had taken claims on the territory interfering with his cattle range. His head-quarters were in Custer County although he resided in Plum Creek Dawson County. He had come to Nebr. from Texas on account of having been concerned in the killing of several men while there. He was accompanied by his brother Robert Olive who had, to prevent all knowledge of his whereabouts, assumed the name of Stevens