

THE FALLS CITY TRIBUNE.

Vol. II FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1905. Whole No. 103

Woman Shot Herself Lest She Would Harm Her Baby

A Denver daily dated December 18, has the following to say of a former Falls City girl. Mrs. Harold Bauer will be remembered as Miss Lottie Whitmer, who for a number of years lived with her father on a farm northwest of this city.

There is hereditary insanity in Mrs. Bauer's family. Her mother in a fit of insanity, hanged herself when Mrs. Bauer was 15 years old. Her grandmother on her mother's side was insane. Her uncle on her mother's side lost his reason.

Fearing that while in a fit of mental aberration, to which she was addicted, she would kill her 6-months-old baby girl, Gladys, Mrs. Lottie Whitmer Bauer fired a bullet into her brain yesterday afternoon. When her husband returned home from work three hours later he found her in a dying condition. He removed her to St. Luke's hospital where, despite an operation the physicians hold out no hope. They say she may linger some hours longer, but cannot recover. She left her baby with a neighbor, locked herself alone in her home at 355 South Water street and sought to die alone. The case is one of the most unusual that has come to the attention of the authorities in a long time. It once more demonstrates that mother's love dominates the world. Once more has a noble mother sacrificed her life for that of her child. Investigation has developed that for six months Mrs. Bauer been fighting against harming her little girl. Ever since the birth of the baby June 2, the mother has at times been insane. Full well did she know this, but battling against it and against the fear that she might in such a moment kill her darling girl, on four occasions, and in as many different ways, she tried to end her own existence so that her baby might be spared.

On each former occasion, however, she was detected and saved by her husband's arrival in the nick of time. Not so yesterday. Leaving her baby Gladys, at the home of Mrs. Pearl Williams, at 354 South Tremont street, at 10 o'clock yesterday morning where it would be out of harm's way she prepared to take her life. "I'm going down town shopping, and want you to take care of baby until I return" she said.

When asked when she expected to get back, Mrs. Bauer answered that it would probably be two o'clock. Where Mrs. Bauer went in the city has not been established, beyond the fact that she bought a 38-caliber revolver and cartridges. She returned to her home a few minutes after 3 o'clock and entered the house. A short time later Emily Yarden, daughter of Mrs. Thilda Yarden of 310 South Water street while playing near the Bauer home heard a shot. She ran to her mother and the latter fearing that something was wrong; rang the bell of the Bauer home a number of times, but receiving no response finally gave up.

Mrs. Bauer was not discovered until 6 o'clock when her husband returned from work. Having difficulty in getting into the house, and finding the blinds all drawn, Mr. Bauer suspected something was wrong. He turned on the light and made a hasty investigation.

He did not have far to go. In the kitchen he found his wife, sitting at a table, fully dressed, her head lying on her right arm. A pool of blood, a revolver and cartridges lying on the table told

the tale. Beside her arm was an unsigned rambling note, scrawled in lead pencil. It follows:

"I listen to every fool thing, but Harvey, there isn't anything sweeter in this world than a mother to love her child. I love little Gladys. But don't let her ever know anything about her own mother. Harvey, please think about the good things I have done. Never think anything about this."

Mr. Bauer rushed for Dr. Trachsel, who lives nearby and neighbors turned in a call for the police surgeon. After a hasty consultation Dr. Trachsel and Police Surgeon Preston decided that in order to save Mrs. Bauer's life she must be taken to a hospital. She was sent to St. Luke's in the police ambulance. An operation was performed which failed to locate the bullet. According to Dr. Trachsel, the bullet entered the right parietal bone and lodged somewhere in the brain. On account of the weak condition of Mrs. Bauer the physicians could do little.

When found Mrs. Bauer was unconscious, but while being taken to the hospital she regained consciousness and an evident full realization of her unfortunate condition. This led her to beg of the physicians to let her die: "Oh, please, please kill me! Don't let me live!" she wailed.

"Why can't you end this miserable existence? I don't want to live." There is no question that Mrs. Bauer's deed is the result of insanity. On account of her approaching second wedding anniversary, which falls on next Friday night and for which she has been making plans for a celebration, it was believed that the unfortunate mother had something to fear. This however has been dispelled by Mrs. B. P. Settle, the proprietress of the Broadway flats, 242 South Broadway, where Mrs. Bauer's child was born. Mrs. Settle was intimately acquainted with Mrs. Bauer, and says she was without doubt insane.

"Ever since the birth of Gladys on June 2, Mrs. Bauer has been insane," explained Mrs. Settle. "Her condition was such that she could not be left alone a moment. Shortly after the birth of Gladys Mrs. Bauer came to me and told me of her unfortunate condition. 'I feel that I am going to the bad' and said, 'I don't want to live any longer. I want you to look after me and see that I do no harm to my baby.'"

It was the latter part of August that Mrs. Bauer's condition became so bad that Mrs. Settle asked Mr. Bauer to remove his wife, because she interfered with other roomers in the house. They moved to 1015 So. Pennsylvania avenue, where they were but a few days when Mr. Bauer as he entered the house found his wife about to drink a bottle of some kind of poison, according to Mrs. Settle. He dashed the bottle out her hand. Then he saw a rambling note, written by the wife, on a table, explaining that she intended to make way with herself. Matters became so bad that Mr. Bauer finally decided to send his wife to the Molkery sanitarium in Montclair. He eventually did so the first week in October and kept her there a month according to Mrs. Settle.

Before he succeeded in getting her into the sanitarium, Mrs. Settle declares that the wife again tried to commit suicide. This time she wanted to throw herself out of her room on the second story of the Broadway flats to which the Bauer's had returned. Mr. Bauer happened along at the

moment and found his wife climbing out of the window, and she would have dashed out her brains on the payment thirty feet below had he not forced her back.

After Mrs. Bauer left the sanitarium, Mrs. Settle declares she made the third effort, this time deciding to drown herself. Her husband, fearing that she would make another effort to take her life, took all kinds of precautions. Among them he allowed her no money so that she could not leave home. As he returned home one day Mrs. Bauer asked him for 10 cents, and when he in turn questioned her about what she intended doing with it, she replied that she wanted it for car fare, as she intended drowning herself.

Shortly after this the Bauers moved to 355 South Water street, where yesterday's attempt was made by Mrs. Bauer. The neighbors declare that since she has lived there Mrs. Bauer has kept to herself constantly, very seldom leaving the house.

The married life of the Bauers was ideal. Mr. Bauer, it is said realizing that there was insanity in his wife's family, humored her as best he could. The husband knew full well that his wife's mother and grandmother as well as her uncle were insane, and therefore he tried all in his power to prevent any outbreak in his wife.

Mrs. Bauer is 24 years old. Her father is Manuel Whitman, a ranchman in Western Colorado somewhere.

D. E. Thompson is Retained.

The charges preferred against D. E. Thompson of Lincoln, minister to Brazil, have been disproved and the president has appointed him ambassador to Mexico. The charges were for immorality and connected his name with that of a lady high in Brazilian social circles. We are really glad to be able to announce that Nebraska has one federal appointee who is not out of a job.

Car Storage.

Every elevator in Richardson county is full of corn and the elevator men are forced to pay less than the market price or refuse to receive the grain. The railroad companies are not furnishing the cars to carry the crops. One of the reasons for this is the Kansas law which provides that whenever an elevator man orders cars and deposits one-fourth of the freight with the order, the company must furnish the cars within 48 hours or suffer a heavy penalty. The Kansas crop is being moved; the elevator men down there are getting the cars while the Nebraska farmer sees this glorious weather slipping by and nothing doing.

Residence on Fire.

On Sunday evening the residence of Frank Smith located on South Harlan street caught fire in the floor of the second story and it had gained quite a headway before being discovered. The pipe running from a stove on the first floor ignited the wood. The furnishings of the upper rooms the roof and all of Mrs. Smith's clothing were destroyed the damage being between \$300 and \$400, part of which was covered by insurance. The family were spending the evening away from home when the accident happened. By prompt assistance from friendly hands the rest of the furniture and house were saved.

H. E. Williams of Shubert was looking after business affairs in this city the first of the week.

Salem Agitated.

About thirty members of the Salem commercial club were in the city Tuesday morning consulting a lawyer about the proposed electric light venture. Some opposition had developed against the proposition and the club desired all legal obstacles removed. The probabilities are that the proper ordinance granting the franchise will be passed in due season and the city brilliantly lighted within a few weeks.

Postoffice Notes.

Lobby open from 6 a. m. to 9:30 p. m.

General delivery window open (week days) from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m., winter months. The remainder of the year from 8 a. m. to 7:30 p. m.

Delivery window open Sunday from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m.

Money order and registry departments open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.

Call for pamphlet on postal information, it will be given you free of cost.

Speak your name plainly when calling for mail, do not say ME, WE or OUR FAMILY.

Two cent postage stamp book for sale, 12 stamps for 25 cents; 24 stamps for 49 cents; 48 stamps for 97 cents.

Come in through south door, go out through north door; that is, keep to the right.

Box rent will be due January 1st.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS

Unclaimed letters remaining in the postoffice at Falls City, Neb., for the period ending Dec 25, 1905:

Brown W. E. Clark Jennie
Friedrich W. E. Hills J. M.
Hellyer D. Helen S. D.
Mrs. Hicks Kitt Joseph
Olson Gullek Richards C. B.
Saxe J. J. Scott William A.
Shannon Wm E. Shaw Mary B.
Shanele Katie Tyler Sam

Parties calling for the above letters should say "advertised." G. J. CROOK, P. M.

Musical.

Mrs. C. Banks and Miss Banks give the second of a series of musical evenings at their home Tuesday, January 2nd. The program, which will begin at 8:15 o'clock, will be as follows:

PART I
Voice—Ava Maria.....Millard
Piano—Andante with variations,
Scherzo, Trio and Allegro from
Sonata, Op. 26.....Beethoven
Voice—"Come unto Him," from
The Messiah.....Handel
Piano—O Thou Sublime, Sweet
Evening Star.....Wagner-Liszt
Voice—"Inflammatus," from Stabat
at Mater.....Rossini

PART II
Piano—Improptu, Op. 90, No. 4 Schubert
Voice—"Who'll Buy my Laven-
der?".....Edward German
Piano.....Gounod
Voice—"Ring Out, Wild Bells"

The hostesses desire hereby to repeat the invitation to those who were present at the first recital.

Marriage Record.

Clyde Conover, Stella.....21
Katie Chandler, Shubert.....18
John W. Bemis, Dawson.....23
Ella Strawn, Humboldt.....23
Clyde Harper, South Auburn.....22
Pearl Pearson, Shubert.....24
Harvey Becker, Shubert.....42
Cassandra Roberts, Shubert.....27
Judge Wilbit, Dec 23, 1905.
Martin M. Brewer, Cairo, Neb. 22
Lottie B. Woodworth, Grand Island, 24
William Fries, Mound City, Mo. 37
Louisa Cassidy, Salem 28
Thomas E. Snyder, Indianapolis, Ind. 26
Elfreda M. Foster, Falls City, 26
George E. Goldizen, Blocton, Ia. 24
Jennie E. Chesley, Rulo, 18
Judge Wilbit, Dec. 27, 1905.

Humboldt Man Missing.

A special from Humboldt to the State Journal Wednesday, has this to say of a prominent farmer in that vicinity: Events of the last few days indicate that W. A. Richard, a young farmer of this section, if the authorities succeed in locating the now missing man, will be given an opportunity to explain to the court a number of crooked transactions. A few days since he wrote from Kansas City whither he had accompanied a shipment of hogs, informing his wife that he would not return, and that in the future she could go her way and he would go his. The woman is left practically destitute, all property which remains being covered with mortgages. Not content with rendering himself liable for wife desertion, Richard pocketed the proceeds of the shipment of live stock, some of which was consigned by his neighbors to fill out the car, and it has also developed that he procured from Butterfield & Co., \$125 as advance pay on the hogs shipped, and from Cooper & Linn \$100 advance on some grain which he was to deliver. These amounts added to a number of bills owing about the city make his indebtedness something like seven hundred dollars outside of the shipment. In addition it develops that he recently disposed of a gasoline engine upon which a mortgage was held by Butterfield & Co., of this city. Whatever property remains on the farm has been attached and a search is being instituted for Richard. The young man moved here from near Stella last spring and leaves a wife and two small children in destitute circumstances. He is of prepossessing appearance and easily won his way into the confidence of a number of local mercantile establishments, which are left for quite an amount.

Died.

At the age of 60 years occurred the death of Robert Poteet at the home of his brother Benjamin in the east part of town. The deceased had been sick for the past six months and early Thursday morning came the summons to that distant land where no mortal feet may tread.

Robert Poteet has made this his home for a number of years and is well known here and at Rulo. The funeral services will be conducted Saturday afternoon, interment being in the Rulo cemetery.

A telegram was received yesterday by John Hinton conveying the news that his brother Frank died at 4 o'clock Christmas at his home in Salt Lake City, Utah. Heart disease was the cause of death. He is survived by his wife. Frank was well known in this city, having left here in '95 for the west and has many friends who received this news with sorrow and regret.

Christmas Services.

The nineteenth-hundred and sixth anniversary of the birth of Christ, our Savior was observed by most of the churches in this city by appropriate exercises. On Saturday evening exercises were held at the Presbyterian, Methodist and Brethren churches; on Sunday evening at the Christian and Beulah churches and at the Mission on Monday evening. Mass meeting was held at the Episcopal church on Sunday evening.

Mrs. George Jennings spent Christmas with Salem friends.

Married.

Miss Iva Fuller and Edwin Ewing were united in marriage at the home of the bride north-east of Verdon on December 24th, in the presence of about seventy five friends and relatives.

At five o'clock, as Mendelssohn's wedding march was rendered by Martha King the bridal party took their places under a beautiful arch of smilax and cream roses, where the ceremony was performed by Rev. Ray Hunt of the Christian church of Verdon.

The bride and groom were attended by Nelle McMahan and Fred Oswald of this city; and Maud Clark, Katie Meliza, Meta Heineman and May Watson acted as flower girls.

The bride was beautifully attired in white crepe de chene over taffeta and carried brides roses, while Miss Mahan was gowned in white silk crepe.

After congratulations an elegant three course luncheon was served. The Tribune extends congratulations.

At the home of the bride's parents at Thorp, Washington, on Monday, December 25th, was celebrated the marriage of Miss Rosella Ellison and Beamer Harvey.

Beamer is a former Falls City boy as his father has long been a resident of Falls City. He is an excellent young man and has many friends in this city who wish he and his bride the best of good wishes along life's pathway.

At his home at 7:30 o'clock on Thursday evening Rev. Griffin united in marriage Ella Strawn of Humboldt and John Walter Bemis of Dawson. A simple but impressive ceremony was performed in the presence in the presence of a few witnesses.

A pretty home wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Foster on Wednesday evening December 27th when Miss Elfreda Foster and Thomas E. Snyder of Indianapolis were united by the life ties of marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Martin of Indian Territory, the grandfather of the bride at 8 o'clock p. m. in the presence of the members of the family.

The bride was charming in white silk.

After the ceremony an elaborate reception was held at the home of Mrs. Jacob Schauble for Mr. and Mrs. Snyder.

Elfie has taught in our public schools for a number of terms and was quite a favorite with all whom she came in contact in her daily work. She was a member of the Friends in Council and was quite popular in social circles.

Mr. Snyder is an estimable young man and although he has been in Falls City but a few times made many friends in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder left for their home in Indianapolis where they are followed by the best wishes and sincere congratulations of their many friends in our city.

At The Gehling.

"A Hot Time in Coon Town" the colored musical comedy in two acts was presented to a fair house on Wednesday evening. Among good specialties were J. A. English, the hoop rolling marvel; Dora English, the serpentine and fire dancer and J. R. Johnson, basso. H. Q. Clark as Andrew Jackson Jones was a splendid comedian.