

AN INSURANCE MURDER.

A Tragedy in Kansas with Some Extraordinary Features.

One of the Most Deliberate and Carefully Planned Murders on Record.

New York World.

A remarkable story of attempted swindling, involving a cold-blooded murder, was told to a World reporter yesterday at the office of the Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In December, 1878, John W. Hillman had made applications for insurance on his life, at Lawrence, Kansas, in the offices of the Mutual, the New York and Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Companies.

When the news of Hillman's death was brought to his friends in Lawrence they refused to believe the story of accidental shooting, and had the body exhumed and brought home.

The insurance companies agreed to act together, and the matter was brought to the bottom. They believe that Hillman was still alive, and that he and Brown had procured the corpse for the purpose of securing the insurance.

The dead man was not like Hillman; his hair was curly, and came down around his face, while Hillman's was quite straight, and was brushed back from his forehead.

A photograph of the corpse was taken and sent to various places. It was first recognized at Fort Madison, Iowa, as that of Frederick A. Walters, the man who joined Brown and Hillman on their supposed search for a cattle ranch.

At once recognized the features as those of his son. He took it home with him, and accidentally dropping it from his pocket, it was seen by his wife and daughter, who at once burst into tears. Several letters of Walters were also found.

CONFESION BY ONE OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

Brown was arrested and made a full confession in September, 1879, in Platte County, Mo., saying that the preceding was part of a scheme to defraud the insurance companies.

March we started on a second trip. On this trip we fell in with Walters, whom Hillman hired to work on a ranch. Hillman said that Walters would make a good body for the insurance companies. I told him the body was not like his, and that it would not do, and I also protested against the taking of Walters' life as insurance was not part of our agreement.

SEARCHING FOR THE CHIEF CRIMINAL. Brown, who had escaped and retracted this confession, saying that he had been induced to make it by the lawyers for the insurance companies, who, he said, had told him that if he would make it, and if Mrs. Hillman would deliver the policies to the companies, he would be permitted to go free.

PLATTSMOUTH POINTERS.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., December 28.—The annual ball and supper of Plattsmouth Lodge A. F. & A. M. was held here last evening and pronounced by all a decided success.

Plattsmouth has another boom, contracts for over \$100,000 have been let for improvements the coming spring.

B. L. Davis, of the class of '83 of the state university, has been engaged as assistant principal in our high school and is giving the best of satisfaction. Mr. S. is a young man of unusual ability and an honor to his alma mater.

A number of Plattsmouth young people are home for the holidays, among them being D. H. Wheeler, Jr., M. E. Wheeler, C. N. Parnell, T. P. Livingston, of the state university; Miss Mattie Cooper, of Brown Hall; G. W. Spurlock, of the Methodist school at York, and F. Stadelman, of the military school of Minnesota.

Dr. Dio Lewis, the noted lecturer and originator of the Ohio crusade, paid Plattsmouth a short visit this week, the guest of his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Wheeler.

A Railway Accident.

The maddest man in the state is a freight train conductor on the La Crosse division. His train was coming east, and this side of New Lisbon the conductor missed one of his brakemen a man named Gregg. After learning that he was not on the train the conductor signalled the engineer to stop, and it was backed up slowly, the boys looking for the body of their late comrade, expecting to find it mashed up finer than powder.

THREE IN A ROW.

The Prosperity of the Farms of Nodaway, Brooks and Smithtown, Iowa.

Business and Personal Mention.

Correspondence of THE BEE.

Brooks, Adams county, Ia., December 27.—Three little towns along the eastern branch of the Nodaway, may come in for their share of attention.

Nodaway, five miles east of Villisca is a village of 100, although its business interests were somewhat injured by fire a few years ago.

M. J. Simpson & Co. have a large store, filled with general merchandise, and have the business of the town. They are located in a large showy building, and they do not propose to let the trade go away from the town.

Mr. J. R. Shearer, the gentlemanly station agent, is a cunning workman with a jack-knife, and has worked up quite a trade in violins. He has the reputation of manufacturing a fine article, and finds sale for them at good prices, much faster than he can make them.

We called to enquire for the young man John Ampoker, who was shot some seven or eight weeks ago, by the criminal carelessness of another young man. Young Ampoker, who is represented as being a steady boy, was standing after dark over the steps in front of the post office, when several "smart young men" came along, on their way to attend a "hallucination entertainment," or "grand pow-wow" around the house of a newly married couple, and one of them fired off his pistol for sport, and young Ampoker was terribly wounded, the ball going in just forward and below the arm, and in the direction of the other shoulder.

The physicians have done all in their power, and many join with the anxious mother in the hope that he may recover.

It seems as though fathers and mothers would learn that fire arms are not fit play things for children or lawless and worthless boys and men, and that these gatherings of rowdies are usually off from the same cloth with highway robberies.

Brooks, ten miles east of Villisca, has about 200 inhabitants, with three churches, a graded school, five or six stores, two blacksmith shops, harness shop, drug store, elevators, lumber yard, &c.

Dr. J. S. Peregrine and brother have a good supply of drugs and handle musical instruments. The doctor settled here twenty-six years ago, and has been untiring in his efforts to improve the village.

C. S. Scott, an old citizen, but new postmaster, has his office with Henry Rable, in his grocery store.

The Tucker Bros have a good stock of general merchandise, in a large and commodious building, while John W. Weller in a small room, is in competition in the same line.

Jacob Haylett, of the blacksmith and wagon shop, is a man of large thought and an active live man who finds use for THE DAILY BEE.

D. E. Young has a good stock of harness, whips, blankets, &c., and has a good trade.

James M. Harvey, the "slender blacksmith," is the owner of 15- or 20 swarms of bees, some American and some Italian. He reports that they are healthy and prosperous, and he believes the bee culture is a great success here.

H. S. Moore is a stock dealer, and T. V. Gilmore has two elevators, while Dixon's lumber yard is a marvel of covers as much ground as any yard within fifty miles.

The railroad has undertaken to straighten the Nodaway along this valley, so as to keep it on one side of the railroad instead of meandering from side to side so often, and the earth removed to make a channel for the stream is being placed near the track, and looks as though they intended to make a double track some day, and they are running an extra train from Villisca to Red Oak now, to lighten the freight trains, as this is the heaviest grade on the road. Nearly a hundred trains pass over this road daily, and as the business increases the company are improving the road, putting in good stone work and grading up to the track through the town, and it is expected by many knowing ones that within a year or two new station houses will be built all along this line.

Four or five miles south of Brooks is the thriving young village of Smithtown, where a two thousand dollar M. E. church is just finished, and some large and costly stores are being erected, and will be filled with full stocks of general merchandise, and the people are asking for a daily mail, while the blacksmith and hotel men and other shopmen and traders are on the way to locate there, as THE WEEKLY BEE has to stay.

STOP THAT COUGH. If you are suffering from a Cough, Cold, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Consumption, loss of voice, tickling of the throat, or any affection of the Throat or Lungs, use Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. This is the great remedy that is causing so much excitement by its wonderful cures, curing thousands of hopeless cases. Over a million bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery have been given within the last year, and have given perfect satisfaction in every instance. We can unhesitatingly say that this is really the only sure cure for throat and lung affections, and can cheerfully recommend it to all. Call and get a trial bottle free of cost, or a regular size for \$1.00. Iah & McMahon, Omaha (3).

Dexter L. Thomas, ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

Burdock Blood Bitters advertisement with logo and text.

If you suffer from Dyspepsia, use BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS. If you are afflicted with Biliousness, use BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS. If you are prostrated with sick Headache, take BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS.

Hostetter's Stomach Bitters advertisement with logo and text.

Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is as much regarded as a household necessity as sugar or coffee. The reason of this is that years of experience have proved it to be perfectly reliable in those cases of indigestion where a prompt and convenient remedy is demanded.

Solomon's Cash Price List advertisement.

Advertisement for window glass and other goods.

Table listing prices for various goods like Bibles, Books, and Stationery.

Low Prices for Iron Stone China Ware

Advertisement for HOP BITTERS with a small illustration.

H. Schonfeld Antiquarian Book Store advertisement.

The Antiquarian's Warning. Do not trust him, gentle reader. Though his shaves look trim and neat do not be led by the plate glass windows, shining out upon the street.

H. Schonfeld, Proprietor of the Antiquarian Book Store advertisement.

CHOICEST WORKS. In all departments of Literature and Science. Not only are the most esteemed English and American works to be found in his shelves, but the Standard Writers of Mediaeval and Modern Europe are well represented.

THE ANCIENT CLASSICS. Good Books at Low Prices. Are requested to call elsewhere before coming here that they may prove the truth of this assertion.

Antiquarian Book Store advertisement.

Gray's Specific Medicine advertisement with logo.

United States Depository National Bank advertisement.

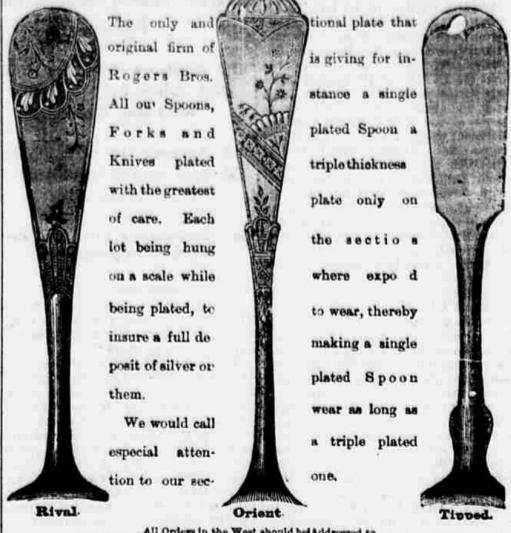
Advertisement for the oldest banking establishment in Omaha.

Advertisement for stationery and printing.

Advertisement for C. F. Manderson, Attorney at Law.

W.M. Rogers' Manufacturing Company advertisement.

MAKERS OF THE Finest Silver Plated Spoons and Forks.



OUR AGENCY, A. B. HUBERMANN, Wholesale Jeweler, OMAHA, NEB.

DON'T FAIL TO EXAMINE Saxe's Stock

NEW YEAR PRESENTS Before Purchasing Elsewhere.

Best Line of Toilet Sets and Odor Cases in the City. Also some very nice Card, Letter and Cigar Cases, and a full line of Ladies' and Gents' Pocket Books.

Saxe's Opera House Pharmacy advertisement.

AT COST! TO CLOSE OUT STOCK. A Few Handsome Articles Left!

SEE THEM! PRICE THEM! Dont Buy Anything Until you Look at OUR STOCK. KUHN & CO., Fifteenth and Douglas St.

Woolley & Davis Stationers, Paper Dealers and Engravers, 105 S. 5th Street.

KEEP ON HAND A SELECT STOCK OF! BLANK, SCRAP, POCKET AND BILL BOOKS, FINE PAPER, INKSTANDS, PAPER WEIGHTS!

Latest Novelties in Wedding Goods, Menus. Visiting and Advertising Cards, Ball Programmes, &c. Also, Paper Bags, Flat and Wrapping Paper, Envelopes, Bill, Letter and Note Heads.

SAUSAGES! GEORGE LINDE, Practical Sausage Manufacturer.

ORDERS OF ALL KINDS FILLED PROMPTLY FOR ALL VARIETIES OF SAUSAGES. Family orders attended to with despatch, and every thing promised satisfactory. I invite a call at No. 210 South Tenth Street.