

# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

THIRTEENTH YEAR.

OMAHA, NEB. FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1884.

NO. 358

## CRIMES OF CHILDREN.

### A Maryland Lad Kills His Father to Save His Mother.

### The Former, in Drink, Endeavors to Slay the Family.

### A Kansas Girl Disappears from a St. Louis Convent.

### Leaving a Note Indicating Intention to Suicide.

### A Couple of Chicago Lads Suicide With Rat Poison.

### In Fear Their Parents Would Discover Their School Delinquencies.

### A PARRICIDE.

KILLS ONE PARENT TO SAVE ANOTHER. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. BALTIMORE, April 17.—Later news from Dorchester, Md., gives an entirely new phase to the tragedy which occurred yesterday. It is now conceded that Frank Shenton killed his aged father in order to save his mother's life. Elder Shenton had been drinking heavily of late, and early yesterday morning began abusing his wife for some fancied neglect, and threw her to the floor and began beating her in a brutal manner. His son Frank, remonstrated with his father for his cruelty, and this aroused all the ferocity in the old man's nature. Turning from the prostrate woman, he seized a gun and

turned upon his son, who fled and hid behind the woodpile. Just as Frank reached his father, and the latter raised his hand to strike him, the boy fired, and the bullet struck the old man in the head, and he died almost instantly. Without following him further, the now frenzied man turned back to the house to wreak vengeance on the wife and mother. Fearing for her life, Frank, as soon as his father went back, followed him, and the sight that met his gaze as he entered the door fairly froze the blood in his veins. His father had his mother on the floor, with one hand clutched in her hair, and in the other he held a large knife, which he was brandishing aloft. Frank seized a heavy club which was resting against the wall, and rushing up to his drunken parent dealt him

on the head, fracturing his skull and killing him instantly. Public sympathy is with the boy, no one believing he intended to kill his father, but that while laboring under excitement, and in his anxiety to save his mother's life, he struck the blow which made him a parricide.

### A CHILD KLEPTOMANIAC.

DISAPPEARS UNDER THREAT TO SUICIDE. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Cora Weber, aged 15 years, of Atchison, Kas., disappeared yesterday morning from the Visitation convent in this city, where she was attending school. She left a letter addressed to her mother in which she said: "Before you will receive this I will be in hell; you know I cannot but steal. If I go back home I will steal, so I will kill myself." The girl's parents were telegraphed to, and arrived in the city in search of their daughter, who had often displayed evidences of kleptomania.

### REGULAR PRESS DISPATCHES.

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Another mysterious disappearance occurred here which is attracting considerable attention. Miss Clara Weber, aged 15, of Atchison, Kas., left the convent of the Visitation, at the corner of Cass avenue and Nineteenth street early yesterday morning, and has not since been seen or heard of. She left a letter addressed to her mother, in which she said she was going to drown herself if she cannot help stealing; that she didn't want to disgrace her parents and friends. It seems she had broken a rule of the convent, and was punished. This caused great humiliation. It is possible she may have drowned herself. The general theory is that she simply ran away. Her father has consulted the police. Every effort is being made to find her.

### THE LOST FOUND.

LATER.—The girl was found between 9 and 10 o'clock at night at the house of Ed. Leggett, No. 1536 Washington avenue, where she had engaged as a servant. Her parents took charge of her. She said she was dissatisfied at the convent, and wished to earn her own living.

### DREAD OF A DRUBBING.

IT DRIVES TWO BOYS TO DEATH. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. CHICAGO, April 17.—Julius and Curtis Linback, brothers, aged 16 and 12 years, were dismissed from school some days ago for misconduct. They did not tell their parents, but pretended to continue going to school, leaving home at the proper time in the morning and returning in the afternoon. Finally their fear of severe punishment, when their deception should be discovered, so wrought upon their minds that they decided to leave this world of whippings and stone-bruises, and took rat poison. A physician was summoned, who applied stomach-pumps. Their recovery is still matter of doubt.

### SUDDEN SUMMONS.

A WOULD-BE SUICIDE BECOMES DEAD. NEW YORK, April 17.—Edward H. Wisner, aged 45, formerly President Johnson's private secretary, died in the Coleman house to-day. He was a native of Kentucky. Among his letters was one expressing his intention to commit suicide. He was subject to heart disease, and dropped dead at the clerk's desk.

### JOHN CLANCY,

aged 65, a wealthy lumber merchant of Grand Rapids, president of the Grand Rapids National bank, was found dead to-day in a room in the hotel where he had been a guest for the past eight days. Fatal boiler explosion in a barracks. BROWNSVILLE, Tex., April 17.—The boiler of a pumping machine exploded in

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upon full compliance with the requirements of the original contract, in one instance claiming that it allowed him to charge for arguments a sum in excess of \$100 per day, which I refused to grant, and on the 4th of November, 1882, he wrote a letter threatening to withdraw from the case if his account was not paid. While the cases were in progress I thought it injudicious to insist upon concessions which would bring about a withdrawal of Bliss. I don't think the amount received by Merrick and Kerr excessive or out of proportion to that paid on cases of even less magnitude between private parties. In the first trial of the cases of Dorsey et al.,

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as often as my other duties would permit, followed the cases with care from day to day, and made the long argument before the court and jury. Two of the defendants were convicted on the first trial, but the irregularity and incongruity of finding subordinate guilty and failing to convict the organizers and general conspirators, those who had made the whole gain and those who had set on foot the whole game to beat the government, was so manifest that the verdict was set aside on motion of the government. In the second trial there was an acquittal. The public men who were involved in these cases were not on their trial before these juries alone. They were on their trial before the people of the United States, and they were convicted by the common judgment of the whole country. They are not punished by imprisonment, but they had better be in prison than now at large—objects of scorn and aversion. These prosecutions have not been without their usefulness, cheer. Some officials have assured me before these cases were begun that the halls of the postoffice department were swarming with these dishonest jobbers.

### FRANK JAMES.

His Trial Begins for the Muzzle-Shoots Robbery—How He Made a J. A. Smith Disgorge \$50,000. HUNTSVILLE, Ala., April 17.—The trial of Frank James began to-day. He was charged with conspiracy to rob A. J. Smith, a government official. James sat with his wife and child, and was dressed in a suit of broadcloth. Smith, the person robbed, testified that during four miles from Florence, about 4 p. m., on March 11th, 1881, three men halted him, presented pistols, and took \$50,000 in government money and \$200 of his own. They bound him in the woods until dark, then let him go. Smith believed the prisoner was one of the robbers, but would not swear to his identity. Thomas Peden, a keeper of a saloon near Muzzle Shoals, could not swear positively to James being one of the three men who followed after Smith as he passed the saloon. Adjourned till tomorrow.

### DOUBLE DROWNING.

Youth and Age Go Under the Water at Quincy. QUINCY, April 18.—There were three cases of drowning here to-day. Mark Phelps, an old resident, and three other gentlemen started to point about five miles above here to get some piling. The flat boat in which they were in became wind-bound; in trying to get it from there a skiff was used. In some manner it was capsized and Phelps was drowned. In the afternoon two boys John C. Murphy, and Chief Magnusson, aged 11 and 13, started to cross a bay in a leaky skiff, when a short distance from the shore the skiff filled and sank. The boys being unable to swim, were both drowned.

### THE REMNANTS OF JAY COOKE'S WRECK.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The sale of the remaining assets of the Jay Cooke estate, held for exemption, dividend scrip, first and second issues, began to-day. The property included the stock of the Penn. Canal Co.; 185 street lots in New York city, the lot and dwelling known as Cherry Hill at New Barbours, Bergen county, New York; upper lands in Louisiana county, Minnesota, and lands in Webster county, Iowa, and Lincoln and Ashland counties Wisconsin, and lands in Lake, Carlton, Louis, Anoka, Franca and Chicago