

HEADLONG PLUNGE TO DEATH.

Switchman Watkins Breaks His Neck in an Accidental Fall From a Car.

A FATAL ACCIDENT AT HOLDREGE.

A Mysterious Malady Affecting Cattle—Aid for Destitute Home-Steers—Burglaries at St. Paul—Nebraska News.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—J. C. Watkins, a switchman employed in the B. & M. yards, met his death in a sudden manner this morning. At 7 a. m., while running along the top of the cars, his foot slipped and he plunged headlong from his car to the track. He was a heavy man and his head struck with great force against a rail, breaking his neck. Death was instantaneous. His leg was broken almost off and the side of his face bruised. The shock was so great that his breast and shoulders were rendered black and blue and with the head swollen to almost double proportions. The remains will be sent to the home of his father, Bertrand, Neb., where his brother and other relatives live. Watkins leaves a wife and three children of tender years. He has some property interests in Bertrand and it is thought left in family circumstances. He was thirty-one years of age and had been married about seven years. The county coroner was notified but decided that no inquest was necessary.

Fatal Accident at Holdrege.

HOLDREGE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Swan Johnson, a farmer living northeast of here, met with a serious and perhaps fatal accident this afternoon. While waiting at the Farmers' elevator with a load of wheat, Mr. Johnson's team was frightened by the car. He attempted to hold the horses by the bits, but they broke away, throwing him to the ground under the engine, both legs being crushed and severe internal injuries sustained.

More Cattle Deaths.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A Mr. Kempf, living on Elm Creek, several miles west of Beatrice, lost three head of cattle last night by some unknown disease. A Mr. Green, living in the same neighborhood, has lost several head by the same malady during the past few days. It is thought the cause may be some contagious disease, but an examination of the contents of the stomachs of the dead animals disproved that theory. The disease is new and unknown to this section.

Coal and Provisions for the Needy.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A committee of clothing and provisions was shipped from here today, donated by the residents of the city to the destitute settlers in Hitchcock and Dundee counties. The distributing points will be at Stratton and Benkelman. It is intended that next week to ship several carloads of coal to the same points for free distribution among worthy settlers.

For Destitute Home-Steers.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A committee of ladies began a systematic canvass of Fremont today for clothing, money and other supplies for the destitute home-Steers of western Nebraska. About \$300 in cash had been previously subscribed.

Burglaries at St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Burglars entered the clothing store of P. C. Shanstrom last night and secured about \$100 worth of goods. The store of A. Jacobson was partially drilled open, but left unfinished. The saloon of X. Placick was opened and about \$10 in cash from the bill and some liquors were taken. It looks like the work of local thieves.

A Young Woman Disappears.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Annie Lewis, a dressmaker at this city, aged twenty-two, has been missing since last Tuesday, and the case was placed in the hands of the police today. She left her place on the day mentioned, and in the evening was seen in the neighborhood of Wynka cemetery, but from that time to this has not been seen. She lives several miles south of the city, but she did not reach home, and as no excuse for her strange disappearance can be found her friends are very anxious to see her. Her work and business was left in such a condition as to indicate her intention of returning soon.

Dr. Gardiner's Work at Crete.

CRETE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Dr. Gardiner of the cathedral of Omaha held his mission services during the week in Trinity Memorial Episcopal church. Never before have these services attracted so much attention. Dr. Gardiner has endeavored himself not only to members of Trinity parish, but as well to all those who have been diligent in their religious duties. He has been very successful in his discourses upon a broad foundation of religion and brotherly love. The meetings have been attended by ministers and laymen of all denominations.

Officers of Post No. 35.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Rawlins Post No. 35, Grand Army of the Republic, elected officers last night for the ensuing year as follows: Post commander, Alex. Greaves; adjutant, Commander Frank Hall; junior warden, O. H. Phillips; officer of the day, Sam Eades; quartermaster, J. R. Craig; chaplain, C. L. McEllis; officer of guard, Henry Walker. Resolutions were adopted by W. O. H. Phillips, S. Eades and E. S. Cushman.

Skaters Take a Cold Plunge.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—While a large party of skaters were dispersing themselves on the ice on Indian creek this evening the ice gave way and precipitated a number into the water. There were about thirty on the ice at the time. All succeeded in getting out safely except two who narrowly escaped drowning. They were rescued with the aid of long poles after much difficulty.

The Temporary School Fund.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The December distribution of the temporary school fund amounts to \$305,043.75. This is next to the largest distribution in the history of the state. The largest was in June, 1890, and amounted to \$317,019.33. The distribution one year ago amounted to \$283,435.21.

Thrown From His Horse.

GERING, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—M. P. Webster, who resides about fifteen miles east of here, was thrown from a horse yesterday and had his collar bone fractured in two places besides sustaining serious internal injuries. He is fifty-nine years old.

Otoe County Convention.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 6.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Leroy Finney and James Martin were today sentenced to the penitentiary for eighteen months and two years, respectively, for burglary. The case was against S. L. Chapin for abduction was dismissed.

The Bridge Bonds Decision.

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