

# **DIES IN MISERY WITH \$15,000 IN POCKETS**

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## **John Mooney of Jamestown Died on the Road from Exposure While Looking after his Farms**

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Jamestown, N. D., Oct. 29—The body of John Mooney, a large land owner of Stutsman county, was found today lying at the side of an unfrequented road about fourteen miles northwest of Jamestown. Life had been extinct for some time when the body was discovered and death had evidently been caused by exposure and exhaustion.

He had been attending to business at his farms and was last seen alive at the home of one of his renters. He left there in the evening to go to his home and when within a quarter of a mile of his house was probably overcome with weakness and lay down near the side of the road and there miserably expired. He was poorly clad and wore a threadbare coat and overcoat.

When brought to the Flint undertaking rooms about \$15,000 of certificates of bank deposits were found in his clothes and there were no evidences that anything had been disturbed upon his body.

John Mooney was a well known character in Stutsman and Ransom counties, noted for his wealth and extreme penurious-

ness. In the early pioneer days he located at Sheldon and worked on the Fargo and Southwestern railway as a section foreman and there got his start, saving nearly every cent that he earned. He came later to Jamestown and accumulated money and land in the county, being a shrewd investor, and the expense of his living being a very small item compared with his large income. He spent last winter in a room over White & Henderson's store of this city and is claimed to have boasted that his expenses for food were less than ten cents a day.

Besides bank deposits Mooney owned nearly 1,000 acres of valuable land in Stutsman county lying mostly in sections 4 and 9, township 140, range 65, and also had a large open bank account in a Jamestown bank, and it is believed by some that he had other valuables hidden away.

He left a will and it is said that according to that will most of his property is left to the Catholic church. He was about 65 years of age and left no relatives in this vicinity.