

BUNCO ARTISTS

STRIKE A SNAG

RANSOM COUNTY, N. D., MAN HAS INTERESTING EXPERIENCE WITH A PAIR OF SWINDLERS.

Sheldon, N. D., Feb. 16.—A. A. Brown of Garrison, Ia., who has purchased the M. B. Greene farm, returned home after spending a few days looking over his property here.

On his way up here two clever swindlers attempted to relieve Mr. Brown of \$50 at Minneapolis but he soon saw through their game and refused to be buncoed. While sitting in the train before it left Minneapolis, a well dressed man entered the car, sat beside Mr. Brown, introduced himself and struck up a conversation. He tried to find out how much money he was in the habit of carrying and failing in this attempt he told a hard luck story about having several thousand dollars' worth of jewelry in the express car which he was unable to get out as there were \$50 express charges against it, and he had nothing but a check for \$450 which he was unable to get cashed on account of the banks being closed, and strongly hinted that it would be a great accommodation if Mr. Brown would advance him \$50 on the check.

Mr. Brown refused to take the hint, and at this juncture the bunco man's partner appeared, pretending to be the express messenger in charge of the car, and dangling an important bunch of keys from his finger. He asked the man who pretended to have the jewelry if he had raised the \$50 charges, and he replied that he had not unless Brown would give him \$50, taking the \$450 check as security. This kind of frenzied finance did not appeal to Mr. Brown, and he simply took an extra half hitch in his pocketbook and kept still.

After a few minutes further conversation in which both swindlers tried to argue Mr. Brown to part with \$50 the train pulled out and the two men left the train. If the conductor had happened along while the two fellows were attempting to work their graft, Mr. Brown would have had them arrested.