

## Attempted Murder.

Sheriff Drakely, of Steele county, was in town Saturday morning looking for two men who had brutally beaten and robbed Col. R. F. Pickert, of the Pickert farm. There are so many conflicting stories in regard to the matter that it is almost impossible to get the correct version of the affair, as we were unable to see the sheriff and of course Mr. Pickert has been unable to put in an appearance in town. The way the story was told to us was that Mr. Pickert had had a dispute over some \$80 that two of his men had coming to them. The same day that the affair occurred Mr. Pickert had gone to Hope and drew out of the bank \$500, this fact the two men got hold of and proceeded to carry out their plans. They went to Sherbrooke, and hired Sheriff Drakeley, who runs a livery barn at that place, to drive them over to the Pickert farm. When within about half a mile of the farm the men said that they were cold and would rather walk the rest of the way and paid off the sheriff, who, being in a hurry to get back home as it was late, thought it was all right and started back for Sherbrooke. The two men proceeded to the Col's house, and we are told threw the housekeeper out of doors and savagely attacked Mr. Pickert with a poker and a hatchet and cut and bruised him up terribly and left him for dead. They robbed his person of \$80, a gold watch and two revolvers. The attack was so sudden and unexpected that Mr. Pickert had no chance to defend himself or the chances are that there would have been one or two men less in the world today. As it is the Col. was left in a very precarious condition but we are informed will recover. We care not what the circumstances are that led these men to do this piece of butchery, but if they are captured they should be severely punished. There is a proper channel to adjust all disputes without resorting to wholesale slaughter. The men we understand were in Cooperstown the same night, but skipped out before Sheriff Drakeley arrived here. Up to the present time no news of their capture has been received here.