

# NORTHWESTERN NEWS.

## Interesting Items Gathered from Various Localities.

### ILLINOIS.

Two veins of canal coal have been found near Danville. The first is two feet thick and the second five.

H. H. Hills, a wealthy resident of Bloomington, was knocked from a wind-mill the other day and killed.

Charles Hundley, a traveling man residing at Murphysboro, returned home unexpectedly the other night to find one Weller in the company of his wife. Weller was shot four times, dying instantly.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Munson was celebrated at their home near Bloomington a few days ago.

Miss Lizzie Eby, age nineteen years, who lived with her parents near Freeport, and who became insane on account of a quarrel with her lover, cut her throat with a piece of glass a few days ago, inflicting a fatal wound.

The extensive plant of the United States Rolling Book Company will be removed from Urbana, O., to Decatur.

Edward Forsman confessed in open court at Newton a few days ago to being an accessory before the fact of the murder of George Bowers, and was sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary.

Hundreds of cattle are being deborned in the vicinity of Pekin among the farmers. Those that were deborned some weeks ago were doing well.

The State Board of Agriculture is receiving reports of a most discouraging nature with regard to the crop prospects for next year. The winter wheat crop is of a very poor quality, and the yield will be small. Cattle are being shipped out of the State as rapidly as possible, because the price of corn is too high to feed with profit.

Jane McMullin, living ten miles south of Paris, hung herself the other morning because a young man to whom she was engaged left for Missouri without seeing her. Richard Tinkler was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting near Decatur recently.

William Bonner, a justice of the peace in Murphysboro, lately brought a libel suit against Samuel Derrington, his son-in-law. He tried the case himself, acting as judge, lawyer, witness and jury, and gave himself a verdict of \$5,000.

New York capitalists are at work in Chicago endeavoring to secure right of way for a system of elevated railways. The syndicate is said to have \$20,000,000 at its command.

Mr. John Cunningham and wife celebrated their golden wedding at their residence in Salem a few evenings ago.

Ulysses Pemberton, aged twenty-one years, shot and killed his father the other morning at the home of his mother near Gallatin, Saline County, on account of a trivial quarrel.

I. W. P. Rivison's large stock-barn in Willow, Jo Daviess County, burned the other night, together with sixty tons of hay, five hundred bushels of corn and six head of cattle.

Three of the best-executed counterfeit coins in circulation in Chicago for some years were turned into the sub-treasury the other day. They are standard dollars of the issue of 1864, and in size, appearance and weight are perfect.

### IOWA.

J. J. Donahoe, on trial at Atlanta recently for the murder of L. Wrence Dolan, a neighboring farmer, was found guilty of manslaughter.

A number of money packages in the care of the United States Express disappeared at Waterloo a few days ago. The amount was estimated at from \$800 to \$1,000. No suspicion was attached to any express or railroad employes.

J. E. Waters, a farm laborer near Davenport, recently secured \$10,000 as his portion of the estate left by his father, whom he had not seen for fifty years.

Ira O. Kling, of Mason City, has accepted the position of Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction and will enter upon his duties January 1.

Nathan Sanders, of Grinnell, aged eighty-eight years, died the other morning, and his wife, aged eighty-four years, followed him two days afterwards, both dying of old age. The old couple were pioneers there and widely respected.

Spencer Lee, aged seventy-one years, committed suicide at Des Moines a few days ago by shooting. Despondency from continued ill-health caused the act.

At Sioux City the other day a numerously signed protest was published declaring that the presentation of cases to Aresndorf's attorneys did not by any means represent the business men of that city. The citizens of Marshall, Pocahontas County, hanged John Aresndorf and Sheriff McDonald in effigy and gave three groans for Kellogg and the jury.

Marcus (Cherokee County) farmers propose to organize a grain-shipping association and handle their own grain.

Dr. Thomas J. Jones, a druggist of Sevastopol; C. B. Porter, a student in the Des Moines Electric Medical College, and an ignorant fellow named Pathoff were caught the other night in the act of robbing the grave of Mrs. Claffin, at Mitchellville.

Livy H. Gnye, supposed to be a cattle dealer from Walnut, committed suicide by shooting himself through the mouth in a room in a Chicago hotel a few nights ago.

Bowen's drug-store, the office of the Weekly Enterprise and several other buildings made a \$15,000 fire at New Sharon the other day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gesmer, of Jefferson, celebrated their golden wedding a few evenings ago.

Robert Brown, a coal-miner, fatally shot John Nicholson, another miner, at Knoxville Junction a few days ago. Brown was arrested.

The brewers of Cedar Rapids have been given until March 1 to dispose of the stocks they have on hand, upon their promising to close after that date.

By the collision of two construction trains at Waterloo the other night Freeman Davis was fatally and Engineer Caffell slightly injured.

The dynamite bomb exploded at Marshalltown recently was to find out the perpetrators of practical jokes with bombs filled with sawdust. It was successful, the jokers having confessed.

At the recent State poultry show at Marshalltown there were five hundred and fifty entries and a fine display of flowers.

### WISCONSIN.

State Game Warden Wentworth says that during the last year the State Deputy Wardens have caused 175 arrests, and in nearly every instance conviction and fines have resulted.

Herman Hochkooh, a Finlander, was murdered at the Yenk Hotel in Milwaukee early the other morning. He was a railway laborer and arrived only the previous day, having about \$100. Robbery was supposed to have been the motive of the crime.

A resolution to levy a tax of \$2,200 in Manitowish County for the support of indigent soldiers and their families was defeated by a tie vote, twelve being in favor and twelve opposed.

Louis Laubenstein, aged fifty-seven years, a well-known merchant of Hartford, was found dead in his bed the other morning. The condition of his body was such as to warrant the belief that he committed suicide by swallowing strychnine.

The State Grange met in annual session at Madison recently. Worthy Master Carr in his annual address urged petitioning Congress to pass law for government control of railroads, election of postmasters by the people concerned, making sufficient appropriations to stamp out diseases among stock, and for reduced postage on seeds and plants from sixteen to eight cents. Mr. Carr was re-elected Master.

George Smithenson, of North Prairie, Waukesha County, while wheeling a sack of flour a few days ago slipped and fell backward, striking his head, and was instantly killed by the shock.

The burial of an unknown man in the potter's field at Milwaukee recently made six unknown dead who had been buried there during the last year.

An Irish Samenk, a baker of Eau Claire, received fatal injuries recently by being thrown from a delivery wagon.

Governor Rusk has appointed Howard J. Huntington county judge of Brown County, vice Morgan L. Martin, deceased. The term ends in January, 1890.

G. L. Slater and J. J. Reese and their families, who left Beloit September 17 last for Jacksonville, Fla., arrived there the other day, having traversed the entire distance—eighteen hundred miles—in their wagons.

Rev. Robert Thompson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Oregon, was consigned to the insane asylum at Madison the other day.

The Chippewa Lumber Company, of Eau Claire, recently purchased from the Calver Lumber Company, of Kansas City, Mo., two million feet of standard pine lumber located on the Upper Chippewa. The consideration was \$75,000.

A verdict of murder was rendered the other day against William Saxe for killing William Martin at Hartford a year ago.

Deeds were filed at Ashland a few days ago conveying the following iron-mining property to John H. Rice, of New York: Kakagon, \$680,000; Nimikon, \$480,000; Moore, \$200,000; Bourne, \$300,000; Bessemer, \$480,000. Although the nominal transfer is made to Mr. Rice, it is known that it is for the Superior Iron Company.

### MICHIGAN.

The Newaygo Manufacturing Company's dry kilns, stove sheds and a quantity of lumber were burned the other morning. Loss, \$10,000.

Frank Costein's barn and the contents—grain and hay, eight cows and three horses—were destroyed by fire at Traverse City the other night. Loss, \$2,200, no insurance.

The report that the Calumet and Hecla copper mines had been ruined by the earth quake was denied a few days ago. The work of putting out the fire was progressing.

John C. Holmes, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Detroit, dropped dead the other afternoon of apoplexy.

Boyd's livery barn at Detroit was burned the other night together with six horses, etc. Loss, \$7,500; insurance, \$3,500.

The State Sunday-School convention at its recent session in Kalamazoo elected officers as follows: Rev. Washing on Gardner, Albi n, President; E. W. Miller, Big Rapids, Recording Secretary; M. H. Reynolds, Owosso, Statistical Secretary; W. L. C. Reid, Jackson, Treasurer. The Treasurer's report showed the association to be out of debt. There are 3,200 schools in the State, 34,600 officers, and a total membership of 278,200.

Eugene Converse, the Battle Creek lawyer who recently committed bigamy by marrying a young woman at Waukesha, Wis., pleaded guilty of embezzlement at Marshall a few days ago and was sentenced to five years in the Jackson penitentiary.

Larry Finn, who beat out his wife's brains with an iron tea-kettle, was convicted of murder in the second degree in Marquette recently.

The Argyle mine, twelve miles west of Ishpeming, was recently sold for \$250,000 to Morris Sellers, of Detroit, and other iron manufacturers of Detroit and Chicago.

The report of the Commissioner of Labor under the new law taxing mortgages indicates a total mortgaged indebtedness in the State of nearly \$140,000,000, or about twenty per cent. of the assessed valuation.

Rev. A. H. Mueller, pastor of the German Lutheran Church of West Bay City, was found dead in his bed the other afternoon. He died from a ruptured blood vessel, was twenty-eight years old and married.

Major W. W. Van Antwerp, postmaster at Jackson, commander of Edward Pomeroy Post, G. A. R., a Knight Templar, and associate editor of the Jackson Patriot, died the other morning of cancer of the liver.

Frederick K. Stearns, president of the Detroit Base-Ball Club, has resigned, owing to a pressure of other business.

The Baraga Hotel was burned the other day, and the remains of a man, supposed to be Mr. Hennick, a lumberman, were found in the ruins.

Lyman Thompson, a farmer, living near Schoolcraft, while tearing down an old mill recently was crushed by a falling piece of timber.

Silas Decker, a well-to-do farmer of Hadley, Lapeer County, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn a few days ago. The annual report of the State Inspector shows that 3,944,309 barrels of salt were inspected in Michigan during the present year. There are 142 blocks and 4,500 salt

covers in the State, with an estimated capacity of 5,265,000 barrels.

About 150,000,000 feet of lumber were cut at Cheboygan the last season, the largest ever recorded. It falls about 25,000,000 feet short of the amount anticipated at the start, but is about 20,000,000 feet in excess of the cut of 1888.

### MINNESOTA.

The last rail was laid the other day on the Minneapolis, Sault Ste. Marie & Atlantic railway, thus forming a continuous line from Minneapolis to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

At the annual meeting in St. Paul of the Minnesota Association of Trotting and Pacing Horse Owners Commodore N. W. Kittson, of St. Paul, was elected president.

A number of ladies at Faribault have incorporated and will build a home to be known as the "Minnesota Home for Aged and Infirm Women."

The thirtieth anniversary of the Lake City First Baptist Church was celebrated recently. The roll call was responded to by only three original members.

Collector of Customs Moore recently gave out a tabulated report of the season's lake business at Duluth. The arrivals of vessels were 1,234 and clearances 1,238, the total tonnage being 2,030,763 tons. Coal receipts for the year were 1,041,000 tons; ore shipments, 390,467 tons; lumber shipments, 5,000,000 feet, and grain shipments, 20,007,965 bushels.

A train on the St. Paul & Duluth road was derailed the other evening below Mahtowa, the engine, baggage-car and one coach going down a twenty-four foot embankment. Engineer Thomas, of St. Paul, was killed and seven others were hurt.

Part of the keel of the first ship ever built at Duluth was laid the other day. She will be 180 feet long, built entirely of steel and cigar-shaped, with turtle-back decks. She is expected to combine speed, safety and great carrying capacity. The boat will be launched about next July.

William Lee, who has been appointed postmaster at St. Paul, is one of the oldest wholesale merchants in Minnesota, but has been living a red life for some years.

Cornelius Higgins' left ear was bitten off by George Burk at Duluth during a litigious easement recently.

A few nights ago the switchmen in the Winona & St. Peter yards at Winona a ruck because a third switch-engine had been placed in the yard to dispatch the work. Their places were promptly filled, and the men now acknowledge that they made a mistake.

Ewald & Havert, dealers in boots and shoes at Winona, failed recently.

Sheriff A. J. Blazier and his assistant, while arresting Andrew Hohnsdal, near Ada, a few days ago, on a requisition from Dakota for forgery, were attacked by the father, three brothers and three women, and barely escaped with their lives. The prisoner escaped.

The St. Paul ice carnival will open January 26, and close February 4.

Captain H. G. Shea, of the Emmet light artillery, left St. Paul recently, and the officials of the 8th militia have discovered that nearly all the vouchers for money expended for the command are false.

Recent reports received at Minneapolis indicated that the wheat crop in the Northwest would exceed the estimates. It was now calculated that the total product of Minnesota and Dakota would be about 95,000,000 bushels.

### DAKOTA.

Annie Moore, a servant girl, whose lover had turned his affections elsewhere, drowned herself the other night at Davenport.

While crossing the Missouri river twenty miles below Bismarck the other night a family consist of Charles Whalen, his wife and daughter, were drowned. They lost the road, and the horse passed on near a large air-hole that the ice broke, and the animal and persons were lost.

August Methian, living near Scotland, was caught in a corn-grinding machine recently and killed.

A vein of coal sixteen feet thick has been found at Watewood twelve feet below the surface and seventy feet below another vein more than three times as thick. The coal is said to be as good as any in the country.

The Land Department has decided the contest case initiated by F. G. Small, of H.roid, against J. W. Bell in favor of the heirs of Small. Bell made a fraudulent entry of a timber claim in the name of his father, J. W. Bell, which was conceded by Small. This caused a feud, and three years ago Bell met Small on the prairie, brained him with a hatchet and buried the body in his buggy and buried it in a field. The body was found and Bell was taken from the jail and hung to a flag-pole by a delegation of citizens.

Peter Friedland, a miner of Terraville, fell into an open cut while engaged in mining near that place, causing instant death.

The school superintendent of Sully County gives notice that he will not issue a certificate to any person who uses alcoholic drinks or narcotics. His announcement has created much discussion, and the superintendent will be asked by what authority he issues such a proclamation.

George Green, a noted horse-thief, was hanged by vigilantes recently near Flemington.

The Dakota fax crop for 1887 is estimated to be 3,000,000 bushels.

D adwood claims the distinction of having an anti-fat society, the members of which abstain from eating anything that will add to their corpulency.

The amount of \$150 was raised within five minutes at Huron the other day to liquidate a debt of the Presbyterian church. The Bismarck National and the Capital National banks at Bismarck have consolidated under the name of the Capital National Bank.

A fine ledge of cinnamon has been found in the tin districts near Rapid City.

Bernard G. Caulfield, who at one time represented the First Illinois district in Congress, died in Deadwood the other morning, aged 58 years.

The foundries of Yankton are crowded with work, something unusual at this season of the year.

A queen was crowned the other night at Old Fort Pierre, on the Sioux reservation, before an interested crowd of Indians, many of whom traveled for miles to witness the ceremony. Her royal highness was presented with forty buffalo robes and two horses.

## ABOUT SMALL FARMS.

When They Continue to Be Profitable and When They Do Not.

Many have observed that the small farms—those containing forty acres or thereabouts—in the older-settled of the Western States have recently changed hands or are offered for sale. The owners desire to dispose of them so as to raise money to buy larger places in the West, where land is cheap, or to use in some business other than farming. They would not be likely to make such a statement to a prospective purchaser, but they have informed their neighbors that their small farms are unprofitable. To persons in their confidence they would state that their places pay less each succeeding year. By the exercise of diligence and economy they are able to make a living for themselves and their families, but they would be able to do this if they worked for wages. Tax's, insurance, repairs of buildings and fences, and the money paid out for implements, leave little to represent the profit derived from the capital invested in the place. By raising a variety of field, orchard and garden crops they find it comparatively easy to supply their families with food, but the difficulty is in obtaining money to meet other necessary expenses.

Franklin in "Poor Richard's Almanac" had much to say of the profits and delights of a little farm well tilled. When he wrote, however, farming operations were conducted very differently from what they are at present. There was then no agricultural machinery. The only implements operated by animals were the plow and harrow. Grain was sown and corn was planted by hand. The cultivation of crops was done by the aid of the hand hoe. All the small grains were harvested with the sickle and were thrashed out with the hand-flail. A farm of forty acres was as large as a man with the aid of a boy or two could manage. He could successfully compete in the raising of crops or the production of meat with the man who owned a thousand acres of land and hired most of the help to work it. At that time the farming region of the country was confined to the wooded section, and materials for fences and buildings were obtained in the forest without other expense than cutting and hauling, which were generally done in the winter, when there was little else to do. The small farms required proportionately more buildings and fences than the large ones, but both were erected without the expenditure of much money.

The general introduction of farm machinery revolutionized the production of grain and the cutting of grass to convert into hay. The owner of a small farm could not afford to buy all the machines needed to do his work, and found it difficult to obtain them for occasional use on his place. With hand tools he could not successfully compete with the large farmers who had machines for doing almost all kinds of work. He labored under disadvantages that were constantly increasing. Machines increased production, and, as a consequence, reduced prices. In the West the condition of small farmers became worse than in the East. On the prairies the farmer had to buy all the materials for erecting his buildings and fences, and had also to purchase his fuel. In the East he had wood to burn and lumber and stone for building barns, houses and fences. The larger the farm the less is the cost per acre for necessary buildings and fences. The smaller the farm the larger the proportion of land that is not productive in consequence of being too near a fence to plow.

It is generally believed that the little farms are better tilled than the large ones. But careful observation shows that such is not ordinarily the case. The small farm is generally managed in such a manner as to cause the soil to lose its fertility in a short time. Only a small proportion of the land is kept in grass or other crops that do not exhaust the soil. A system of rotation can not be carried out on a small place as well as on a large one. A small farm is not profitable for producing grain for the market. Neither can it be made profitable for dairy purposes. Not enough milk can be produced to make it an object to take it to a cheese or butter factory. If the milk is converted into butter at home the chances are that it will be of imperfect quality and must be disposed of at a low price. Few very small farms have good facilities for keeping milk or for making butter.

Small farms in the vicinity of large towns are more likely to be profitable than those located at a distance from them. A large town makes a good market for numerous little things for which there is no demand in the country. Raising poultry is profitable if fowls and eggs can be disposed of directly to consumers. Poultry keeping is seldom profitable if fowls and eggs have to be sent to a distant market and pass through the hands of several middlemen. If a small farm is located near a city or village money can be made in raising all kinds of vegetables and small fruits. Extra help for weeding and thinning garden vegetables

and for picking small fruit can generally be obtained near a town, but it is difficult to procure it if one lives among large farms. A small farmer who is near a town and visits it often for the purpose of selling produce can generally make arrangements for obtaining considerable manure at a nominal cost. Many people who keep a horse or cow are glad to have an opportunity to dispose of the manure to a party who will take it away at regular times. No such opportunities for obtaining manure, however, exist at a distance from a large town.—Chicago Times.

## MILK AND CREAM.

The Three Most Popular Methods of Separating Them.

The methods of separating the cream from the milk are three in number; viz. the deep pail system; the shallow pan system; and the centrifugal creamer.

The deep pail system is derived from the method which has been common in Sweden for many years, and which is there known as the Schwartz method. It is based on the fact that the rapid cooling of the milk to a low temperature, and the maintenance of this temperature, cause the entire separation of the cream in a few hours; the lower the temperature, the more rapid being the separation. There are several kinds of apparatus in use adapted for this system. The use of water from a permanently cold spring or of ice, is necessary under this system. The use of this method of raising cream is rapidly extending, and is indispensable in the management of a public creamery.

The shallow pan system is the most used, and is practically universal in private farm dairies; it has the advantages of convenience and simplicity, and under the best conditions of practice is quite as effective in every way as the deep pail system. No water or cooling is required, but some method of heating is desirable in the winter. An airy, dry, deep cellar, with thick walls and well constructed, furnishes every desirable or requisite condition for raising the cream under this simple system.

The centrifugal is a comparatively new introduction in the business of dairying, but its value and adaptation for the economical and effective working of dairies, large or small, are boundless. This machine, which separates on the principle that centrifugal force in a confined vessel, properly constructed, will throw the denser and heavier particles of a fluid to the outer circumference, and thus compel the lighter particles to seek the center. It is really the adaptation of the principle of gravity to a horizontal position, compelling the lighter particles to rise to the top and the heavier ones to sink to the bottom, so to speak, by the exercise of this force exerted horizontally instead of perpendicularly. Like all the other operations of natural dynamic laws, it is exceedingly simple.—American Agriculturist.

## CHINESE SUICIDES.

A Startling Statement with Respect to Opium Poisoning.

A Catholic paper published in China prints a statement of a startling description with respect to opium poisoning. Opium is the general medium for suicide in China, and the remedy which is recommended, namely, to make the would-be suicide swallow the blood of a live duck as an emetic, may be passed by with a smile—although, should it act as an emetic, it may, perhaps, be as useful as any other. The statement that follows, however, is more worthy of attention, for the native paper says that there is reason to doubt if the supposed successful suicides actually die at all, as the official exhumation of many bodies shows that after the fumes have evaporated the buried persons have struggled violently to free themselves. There are in this and other countries many well-attested instances of persons having been buried alive, and it is generally supposed that they have been the victims of a sort of trance, closely simulating death. Naturally, in a country like China, where medical science does not exist, and where burials take place a very few hours after death, the proportion of mistakes will be vastly larger than with us; and the heavy torpor induced by a large dose of opium would be frequently mistaken for death. It would, however, be interesting to know whether there are any facts whatever to support the Chinese view that, at least, a considerable number of persons buried as dead, after taking opium, recover when the poison has to some extent evaporated.—London Standard.

—Eunice White Beecher, Henry Ward Beecher's widow, has been writing to the Boston Journal on "The Follies of Fashion." She thinks the changes in fashion are becoming constantly more frequent, and are both absurd and unnatural. "Were it not for the title, a fashion magazine might be taken for Punch or the Budget of Fun."