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A. S. BLAKEY, DRUGGIST

CLAIM IT IS BUT POLITICAL SCHEME.

Full History of The Much Talked of Affair Which has Caused One of Minot's Most Prominent Citizens Considerable uneasiness.

Major J. S. Murphy of this city was indicted by the United States Grand Jury at Grand Forks last week on the charge of perjury and his trial has been in progress for several days. The major demanded an immediate trial. Tracy Bangs is attorney for Mr. Murphy. Mr. Murphy was released of \$2,000 bail put up by County Auditor Louis Larson and Clerk of Court John Lynch of this county. Murphy entered a plea of not guilty with a privilege of withdrawing his plea. The Major's many friends in the state contend that the action is one on the part of his political enemies while others claim that he is really guilty of the crime for which he is arraigned. The case is one of particular interest to the people of the western part of the state. It is claimed that he made a false plea in the case of Mrs. Josephine Grinnell whom he helped to secure a pension.

Mrs. Grinnell was the daughter of Charles Malmourie, a Frenchman, who died last June at the Elbow Woods reservation. Her early girlhood was spent on or near the reservation and her first matrimonial venture was in the form of a common law marriage after she had been sold by her mother in Indian fashion to a man named Charles Morris, a Canadian Frenchman. She lived with him a very short time, and after some difficulty with her

father, he was driven off by him. At the time of this marriage she was but 14 years old, and after the departure of Morris, her parents sent her to school at Hampton, Va., where she remained for three years, being among the first of the western Indians to enter an eastern school. Upon her return from Virginia her mother arranged for her marriage to George W. Grinnell, a civil war veteran of the Sixth United States infantry. This agreement was in the form of the usual Indian purchase but the father of Josephine demurred and insisted that his daughter should be married in a more civilized fashion, and this was done, the couple being married at a Presbyterian mission on Fort Peck reservation, Poplar, Mont. They returned to the Grinnell ranch, located 45 miles south-east of Fort Buford, and one of the largest in that section of the state. This was in 1884. In 1888 Mr. Grinnell met a violent death at the hands of his wife.

The element of tragedy then entered the life of Josephine Grinnell. Her husband returned to the ranch one day in an intoxicated condition and drove her out of the house. She started to a nearby field where some of the hands were at work, and her husband followed her, riding horseback. As he overtook her he leaned forward and struck

her a vicious blow over her head with his revolver. She was painfully injured but managed to get out of his reach. Several times the enraged husband overtook her as they ran across the prairie, and finally as he reached forward to strike her, Grinnell fell from his horse. The two, husband and wife, struggled for a short time, in plain view of the hired hands in the field, when Grinnell was seen to fall forward limp and lifeless. With a plaited leather chain Mrs. Grinnell had choked her husband to death. The chain was a heavy affair and was long enough to reach around the neck. In falling the chain had become entangled and his wife grabbed the leather in her struggle to protect herself. Retaining her hold she gradually twisted the guard until life had been choked from her abusive husband. She was taken to Williston, where an inquest was held, the coroner's jury returning the verdict:

"That George W. Grinnell came to his death thru the Providence of God and at the hands of his wife."

It was by this verdict that Mrs. Grinnell was exonerated of a charge of Murder. The ranch owned by her husband was heavily encumbered, and out of the estate Mrs. Grinnell did not receive to exceed \$900 worth of household goods, furniture and other personal property, and she lost this by the duplicity of a brother-in-law.

With her father and four children she moved on the reservation, of which Major Murphy was the agent at the time. In 1891 Major Murphy made application for a pension for Mrs. Grinnell.

After the application was made matters were allowed to rest for several years. In October 1894 Mrs. Grinnell was married to Charles H. Moore, the ceremony being solemnized by Father Crafts, the soldier-priest who was brought from Pennsylvania to testify before the present federal grand jury. She lived with him but a few weeks, and induced him to leave by a gift of a team of horses. She secured a divorce at Minot in September, 1897.

After this separation, Mrs. Grinnell remained with her father until 1900, when she went to Minot and was employed as a domestic in the home of Major Murphy, and in that year he again took up her application for a pension which he originally applied for in 1891. He was successful the second time and in 1901 she was granted a pension of \$8 per month for herself and \$2 per month for each of her children under 16 years of age, together with back pay amounting to about \$1800. Of this

amount she claims that she received \$200. Her pension continued regularly until last October, when it was suspended, as a result of an investigation made by Pension Examiner Swearingen. Owing to the prominence of Major Murphy and the presence in the city of a score or more of prominent politicians, who in past years have been arrayed with and against him, his indictment has caused a great amount of discussion. His friends claim that there is nothing in it, that his political and business enemies in the western part of the state have taken this means to even themselves for real or fancied grievances.

Melhus In Idaho.

Independent:—

Enclosed find check for one dollar for your paper for one year.

We are having fine weather, have had no frost for the last ten days. Quite a few are ploughing and quite a few seeding.

I suppose you people are turning up your coat collars to prevent your ears from freezing.

Greet our friends from us.

Yours truly,

T. A. MELIUS.

Wm. Mitchell, former editor of the Berwick Post, was found guilty of the charge of sending obscene literature through the mails, at Grand Forks last week.

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Notice is hereby given that I will sell to the highest bidder Dec. 12, 1903, at J. N. Johnson's home on Sec. 27, Twp. 155-83, at 2 o'clock p. m. the following described property: One dark red steer two and a half years old, no horns, which was taken up by J. N. Johnson in June, 1902. Terms cash. Erick Hustad, Justice of the Peace for Harrison township, Ward county, N. D.

Money to loan on your farm, I have it—terms of payment easy—Rates low as the lowest. I can save you money. J. E. McKeane. 23-1f

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The happiest couple in the world should be a deaf husband and a blind wife, both taking Rocky Mountain Tea, keeps peace in the family. 35 cents.—K. S. Blakey.

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Velvet and kid tip foxed Juliets for ladies. The latest and most beautiful styles. Come and see them. Cleven & Hanson, Minot, N. D.

Good large snack for sale cheap. For particulars inquire at this office. 3f

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Just arrived at one time for P. H. Baukol 40 cords of dead cut jack pine, 25 cords seasoned jake pine and 15 cords of edgings. The best wood that ever came to Minot. This makes eighty-one cords and the largest shipment of wood ever received by any dealer here. 32-1f.

P. H. Baukol always keeps the best of fuel on hand and the last shipment of wood is exceptionally fine. Give him your next order for sawed wood and bundled edgings. 32-1f.

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For Sale—Remington No. 2 typewriter and Blickensderfer No. 5. Inquire at this office. 30-1f

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