

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

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'T WAS A COLD BLOODED MURDER

Wm. M. Graves, a Portal Homesteader Shoots His Wife in the Head With a 32 Calibre Revolver Early Monday Morning After Quarreling With Her all Night, Killing Her Instantly--Murderer Brought to This City and Lodged in Jail.

Wm. M. Graves, shot and instantly killed his wife in a fit of jealousy at her home in Portal Monday morning shortly before four o'clock. A moment later he would have given anything he possessed in the world to have brought back the life of the woman he loved. While the murder was a most cold blooded one, Graves appears to be a man of some refinement and his face presents a mild look.

Graves and his wife and three children, aged 9, 5, and four years respectively, came to Portal from Indiana last spring and settled on a homestead. Everything went well with the little family until Graves and his wife succeeded in getting employment at the home of Billie Waugh, a farmer living 4 miles north of Portal on the Canadian side. Graves grew jealous of Waugh, but those who are supposed to know, state that his wife was true to him and never gave him any reason to become jealous. Through the efforts of Waugh and Graves' wife, Graves was placed in an insane asylum in Canada last summer where he remained nine weeks. He stated that he was not insane and those who have seen him in Minot say they believe he has a good sound mind. He was set free from the insane asylum but his wife refused to live with him.

She said that he had threatened to take his own life several times, but Graves says he knows nothing of this. His wife began proceedings for a divorce and employed Gammons & Barrett of this city but never secured the divorce. Graves believed that Waugh still gave his wife attention so four days before he killed her, he bought a 32 calibre revolver with the determination to kill Waugh. He went to the shack in which his wife was sleeping about ten o'clock Sunday night and aroused her from her bed. She arose and dressed and they began their quarrel which

lasted until nearly four o'clock in the morning. When Graves saw that it was impossible to make up with his wife, he pulled his revolver from his pocket, and standing at a distance of ten feet from her, fired. The bullet entered her mouth and passed out the back of her head. The little 9-year-old girl was a witness to the tragedy and as her father was about to kill the mother, she cried, "Mamma, Papa is going to kill you." The woman died instantly. The man ran at once and secured a physician, Dr. McCall, but it was too late. No power on earth could give back the life that he had taken. Graves soon realized what a terrible thing he had done and gave himself up to Mark Murphy and Mr. Armstrong, deputy sheriffs, who brought him to this city on the morning train, arriving here at 1:30 o'clock. On the way to this city Graves broke down and cried. He was taken to the office of the state's attorney, James Johnson, where arrangements were made for his hearing. He stated that he would waive examination and stand trial.

The deed is similar to that committed in this city by Hans Thorpe, and for which that man hanged. Graves will likely thru his attorneys put up the defense of insanity, though this will hardly work, as Graves declares that he is not insane. The law does not recognize any excuse in the fact that he was jealous of his wife, and if he does not stretch hemp for the terrible crime every criminal should go free. He is a man 35 years old, and weighs about 150 pounds. He has mild blue eyes and a sandy mustache. He has always borne an excellent reputation. The citizens of Portal say that Mrs. Graves was a fine woman. Graves will be held for trial at the next term of the district court.

THE KULAAS LUMBER YARDS ARE SOLD

The Greatest Yards in the Northwest Have Been Bargained for by the Bovey Shoat Lumber Company, a Corporation From Minneapolis--Draft Deposited in Second National Bank of This City.

T. P. Kulaas lumber yards, the largest in the Northwest, have been bargained for by the Bovey, Shoat lumber company, of Minneapolis, a corporation with much money behind it. The company has placed a draft in the Second National Bank of this city to show their good faith and a representative is expected here January 18 to close the deal. T. P. Kulaas and A. J. Brunner, who are interested mostly in the concern, have built

up a tremendous business here but named their price and the Bovey, Shoat Co.; took them up. Of course, a deal is never closed until the money has been forked over, and this is how it stands with the Kulaas company. The yards burned more than a year ago, but have since been rebuilt and are better than ever. They are spacious, well arranged and have fire proof offices. They are admirably located.

THE INDEPENDENT AT ST. LOUIS.

Arrangements Being Made to Send Ed. Weatherby to The Great Fair in a House-boat--Will Start From Buford and Letters Will be Published Weekly

The Ward County Independent is to be represented at the St. Louis fair and there will not be a river town between Buford and the great southern city that will not have an opportunity to see the words, "The Ward County Independent, Minot North Dakota," in big bold letters on the boat which we are sending to the fair. Already Ed Weatherby, who will be our representative, is making plans on the boat and early in the spring, as soon as the ice is out of the roaring Missouri, he will leave perhaps in company with one of the other representatives of this paper for St. Louis. It is planned to make about a month of the trip and see everything that is worth seeing on the journey. The boat will go with the current. Weatherby has sent for charts and before starting on the journey, will know just where the dangerous places are. The boat will be large enough for ordinary purposes and will be built on the style of a house boat. Letters will be sent to the Independent each week describing the trip and they will no doubt make interesting reading. Mr. Weatherby will also describe the great fair as seen through the eyes of a Dakotan.

Winter Sports

For many years here amongst hills, giving the best advantages for winter sport none but the small boys have helped themselves to the health and mirth that nature has provided. Recently however some of our fun-loving citizens have formed organizations for winter sports. Foremost among these is the Norwegian-American Ski club. The club holds weekly meetings on the hills at the south of the city. Nic Rustad, our genial watch maker is president of this organization. E. L. Sutton is vice president and chief runner, and Bill Hawley, the jovial druggist Secretary and treasurer. A run was held by the ski club on Sunday last. Nic Rustad made the best run, winning the prize. E. L. Sutton was second. Another winter organization is the Minot Toboggan Club. John Wood, president, Chas. Olson, captain. The boys may be seen most any evening on the hill west of the county hospital. There's health and happiness in these winter time sports and the people of our community would do well to join in them more generally.

Troubles of His Own.

Our friend David Houston of Burlington has been having all kinds of matrimonial troubles of late and there seems to be no end to them. A month or so ago David married a lady from the east whom he had known but a short time and he claims that she did not make a good mother to his children. He says his home would have been broken up and his children would have left had the woman remained under his roof, but she packed up one day and came to Minot. David advertises the fact that he would not be responsible for any bills which she might contract and she now expresses a willingness to return to his home. He does not wish her to return and offers to square the matter by buying her a ticket to her old home in Virginia.

A COMPLETE WATCH REPAIRING OUTFIT.

I have just put in a complete watch repairing stock, such as crystals, hands, springs, dials, etc. If anybody in the State can repair your watch, my jeweler can. Mr. L. F. Scherfius has charge of my Jewelry Department and I guarantee all his work to be first-class and at prices that are bound to please you.

Paul V. McCoy,
Jeweler, - - Druggist.
Leland Hotel, Minot, N. D.

"If it comes from McCoy's! You know?"

Court House Notes

E. S. Severance the surveyor, is using the county records and is making a new plat of the city of Minot which will prove very valuable. He will show every lot and every fraction of a lot in the city. The chart which he is making will be six feet or more long. He will have several printed.

Santa Claus failed to visit the jail this year. Charlie Roller says it is because the thing is too crowded.

The county treasurer has about completed sending out the tax notices. Now come up with the goods and be happy.

Do Not Give Satisfaction

The boilers which were recently installed at the G. N. round house are not giving satisfaction. It is a wonder that the officials do not see the advantage of putting in new ones. The boilers installed are old ones and the work of placing them was as great as putting in new ones. But the cry all along the line is to cut down expenses and we suppose this is what was done.

An Exceptional Record

LeSueur & Bradford made an exceptional record in the last session of the district court. They tried 21 cases and out of that number have won twenty of them. The twenty-first case has not yet been heard from, so it may have been a clean sweep for them.

Christmas Cheer all The Year...

A camera is one of the best gifts for young or old. Picture taking is one of the most interesting pastimes. It is not alone for summer days. Winter with its naked woods and barren fields has its picturesque aspects. Your relatives or friends will not forget your kindness in the

GIFT OF A KODAK

It pleases at once and the pleasure grows. No gift can amuse and instruct so long at such small expense. We have a full line of Kodaks ranging in price from \$1 to \$30. Satisfaction guaranteed at any price.

PUT A KODAK ON YOUR LIST.

McCOY'S
Drug Store.
Leland Hotel - Minot, N. D.

2400 Christmas Trees

The first car load of Christmas trees ever shipped west of Grand Forks arrived in Minot last week, consigned to the Grand Forks Mercantile Co. The car contained 2400 trees all of which were disposed. The hearts of thousands of the children on the prairies surrounding Minot, as well as in the city were made glad by the presence of the green beauties on Christmas morning, laden with all kinds of presents. It reminded them of their old homes in the far east. The trees were the first green ones many had seen since they came to this state. Nearly every rig between Minot and Lansford one day last week carried one of the trees.



"Van Exie"
OF MINOT.

A recent issue of a leading Photographic publication in the United States contains a compiled list of the best 6 photographers in each state. Under the head of North Dakota two credited to Grand Forks one to Fargo; one to Jamestown; one to Cando and VAN EXIE, of MINOT. You will make no mistake when thinking of Photographs to think of

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