

—Although harvest in these parts will not commence for three weeks or more, yet harvest hands have already commenced coming in. A number of such came in on Tuesday's and Thursday's train.

—Mr. David Brown, of Nebraska City, Neb. was in this vicinity a few days this week, looking after his landed interests in Riverside township. While in town Thursday he made this office a pleasant call.

—The Great Northern Railway has a large force of men on this branch at work mowing the grass and weeds on its right of way, and the consequence is that the trains arrive in better season than formerly.

—Haying has commenced in these parts, and there will probably be more hay put up in these parts this, than for many years past. The hay is of the finest quality this season, and no one needs go begging, for the whole prairie is covered with it.

—New subscribers, to the Pioneer and those paying their subscription one year in advance, will receive a copy of the 1891 Session laws free. Now is your opportunity. Call and subscribe, or if you are already a subscriber, pay up your subscription.

—Fargo Argus: Oliver Molsterteigen: I came down last night from Hope. Crops are looking well in Steele county, and everybody expects a good crop this fall. I am in the gente' clothing and furnishing business for myself now, and have a fine trade.

—A horse belonging to Mr. John Murray, of Broadlawn, and hitched to a top buggy, in some manner broke loose in the west part of town this morning, starting for home at a rapid gait. We did not learn whether any damage was done the animal or buggy.

—The Sunday school convention which convened in this city Wednesday, continuing until Thursday evening, was well attended, and the proceedings were interesting and enthusiastic. A large number of delegates and visitors were in attendance from abroad.

—A game of ball was played at this place last Saturday between the Hope and Broadlawn sides. The first part of the game was a walk-away for our boys, but in the last three innings the Broadlawn team made eight scores. The game resulted in a victory for our boys—8 to 9.

—Prof. Walker, of Mayville, has been secured by the band boys to instruct them, and came over last Monday. He will be with the boys until August 1st. The boys have secured one of the finest instructors in the northwest, and we may expect to see them make rapid advancement.

—Portland News: T. G. Anderson brought a load of butter over from Sherbrooke last Tuesday for shipment. He says the hail in Steele county last Wednesday and Thursday done considerable damage; that Miss Lied, A. T. Drakeley, the Cochranes and others all sustained losses.

—In another column appears the proceedings in the Wasem case and the substance of the evidence given in the preliminary hearing. It should not be considered by any as given in any other but the desire to give our readers their due—the news, and that as nearly authentic and correct as possible.

—The heaviest rainfall in years, so say the "oldest inhabitants," occurred in these parts Saturday night. It is reported to have been from three to five inches. Numerous cellars in town were flooded, and the very unusual work of pumping the water out of them was indulged in during the first of the week.

PRELIMINARY HEARING

In the Wasem Case—An Account, in Substance, of the Evidence Given.

The preliminary hearing of H. H. Wasem, charged with attempted poisoning of his wife, came up before Justice Winslow, at Sherbrooke, Wednesday morning, at 11 o'clock, States Attorney Murray appearing for the State, and Attorneys Paul and McMahon, of Hope, and Newman, of Fargo, for defence. Case was opened by the prosecution.

The first witness called to the stand was Paulina Kluge, who testified that Mrs. Wasem was sick; had four spasms, had been very sick for about one week previous; also said that Mrs. Wasem has had spasms something similar before.

Mrs. Winslow sworn said same in substance as former witness, she being present when Mrs. Wasem was sick.

Mrs. King sworn said, was present at time Mrs. Wasem was sick and had the spasms.

Dr. Phillip sworn said (when questioned as to his opinion of Mrs. Wasem's ailment which produced cramps) in his opinion he thought by the symptoms it was caused by strychnine, and gave as an antidote an hyperdermic injection of morphia. Under cross examination, Dr. said certain other cramps might be benefited by said injection also described several kinds of cramps.

Conductor Shaver sworn said, his train comes to Hope on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; that he was in Hope on Tuesday, June 2nd, saw Wasem but did not receive any letter from him, as I never take letters. It is customary for merchants to bring letters to train and give them to passengers or lay them on the table in the caboose. Found letters in caboose that day after the messenger got off. Messenger generally takes charge of the letters, but sometimes forgets them. He left them this day and I picked them up to mail them at Breckenridge, but found one was wet and open. All were damp, but this one lay in water. Cast the envelop away, intending to place another on letter and readdress. The letter was addressed, "Miss Olive May, Hamline, Minn". Letter produced and recognized. Under cross examination, said, delivered this letter to the postmaster in Breckenridge, but had first told my wife about it. Did not take the letter to Purcell. The postmaster of Breckenridge, gave the letter to Mathews, who took it to Purcell. Did not enclose the letter in another envelop to remain because I saw it was written in cipher, and I was curious to know what it was and undertook to read it. Read enough to cause one to believe it was a conspiracy to take a woman's life. Purcell did not tell me he thought the letter was put in the car opened for a joke on me. Would not swear that the letter was ever sealed.

Did not divulge the letter matter in Hope until the news came out in the newspapers. Mathews came to Hope with me on Saturday. After reading the letter, was at a loss to know what to do with it. Think I have only done my duty. Do not mind of ever saying to Wasem "it was my intention to remain it." Many have asked me my opinion about the genuineness of the letter, and I have said I thought it was true. It has been said to me that I might have tapped Wasem for a Thousand Dollars; I think Kingsley first said so to me. Cannot say, but by means of some other kind of a key, the letter may read in a different way. Cannot say how long it took me to read the letter. Do not consider it my duty to read letters in cipher, and I do not think I would ever read another one. I am trying to tell the truth.

Arthur McLaughlin sworn said, I am drayman, and remember Wasem rode over to the station with me on Tuesday, 2nd of June. It was raining.

Charlie Merriell sworn said, am a Hardware merchant. Have seen Wasem write and have seen his writing. Ques.—In your opinion do you say, is that Wasem's handwriting? Ans. It is. Under cross examination describes, certain letters and other characteristics. I see my name written which looks very familiar.

We have been good friends for eight or nine years. There is no difficulty between us. I have said that I believed Wasem wrote the letter, but not that he was guilty.

Frank N. Gilmore sworn said, know Wasem, have seen him write, and think I know it. Have seen many orders and bills from him. That is his writing in my opinion. Ques.—Do you swear it positively? Ans.—I positively think so. Cross examined—The letters and figures in this letter bears a general appearance to his letters and figures. Am no professional, but am a fair judge. It is possible for Wasem to make other kinds, but I think a man's general handwriting is the same.

E. H. Baifger sworn, says, "have clerked with Wasem five years and two months. I do not know that I have ever compared any hand writing. Have seen Wasem write many times." Examines the letter and says "I would say from the way the letters and figures are made it is his; I swear, in my opinion, it is his." The witness then describes how certain letters and figures are made by Wasem, and how Wasem used to make fun of him, because they used to commence at different ends of the figure 8 when they made it.—"Saw this letter before, and said it was Wasem's. I think I have formerly expressed my opinion that I thought Wasem was guilty." I am utterly unbiased in my opinion. Am now clerking in Wamberg & Jacobsons. Was not discharged from Wasem's, unless it be a discharge to receive notice that when my time had expired I would not be needed any longer.

The cipher letter was then tendered as evidence, and after considerable legal quibble was received.

F. L. Thurston, station agent at Hope, appeared on bench warrant, and excused himself to the court.

The States Attorney was allowed by the Court to read the cipher letter. The States Attorney, being sworn, read the letter according to his own key or theory. [Letter read. Horrible and infernal in general.]

Mrs. Winslow, being recalled, says, in reference to "Guy," mentioned in letter: Have heard Wasem called Guy. The origin of the name Guy came from a play in which Wasem was Guy Vincent and I was Dora, his sister. We have afterwards been called Guy and Dora. May have called us by that name.

John Wamberg sworn says, "am druggist. Wasem came to my store on Sunday, May 31st with a prescription" (which was produced) "Did not put any arsenic or strychnine in the powder."

F. L. Thurston sworn said, was at the depot on June 2nd. It has been the custom of the business men of Hope to come up with letters. Sometimes they are handed to me, so I deliver to others. I have a box for my letters in the office, but do not know of anybody but railway officials using it.

This ends State's evidence.

The defence moved for discharge of case because of insufficient evidence. Motion denied.

For the defence, Oliver Molsterteigen sworn says, am acquainted with Wasem for three years, was in his employ for nearly two and a half years. Have seen his writing frequently. [Examines letter and says] It does not look like Wasem's handwriting to me.

H. H. Wasem sworn said: Live in Hope. Have not closely examined the letter produced in court. [Examines and says] I did not write that letter nor cause it to be written, and never saw it before to day. Am married 18 years. Never administered or caused to be administered any arsenic or strychnine to my wife. I got a prescription from the doctor, went to the drug store on Sunday and had it filled by Mr. Wamberg. (Ques) Do you know the S. O. Merrill mentioned in the cipher letter? (Ans) Do not.

Amelia Wasem testified as follows:—That she was the wife of defendant. That on the 31st of May 1891, she was sick and took two powders out of a number of powders the doctor had prescribed for her. That on Monday, June 1st, after breakfast, she took another of the same powders. That these powders were lying on a stand in her room, and that the defendant prepared the same in her presence, by mixing it in a little water. That she noticed an unusual or bitter taste to the powder she took on Monday morning, and that it was just like the two taken the day before. That an hour or so after taking the powder on Monday, she was taken with spasms, beginning in the limbs and extending over the body. That she had four such spasms that day.

That she had had just such spasms before, and that her sister and mother had been similarly afflicted. That she was not at all alarmed, as she knew what they were when she felt them coming on.

Court adjourned until nine o'clock Thursday morning.

On opening of court Thursday morning, Joel Jameson sworn said, am acquainted with Wasem and with his writing. Examines letter and says, I swear it is not his. The "y" is not the same, cannot explain the variation, but can show it. Have clerked with Wasem since April, and think I ought to know his writing.

William Milligan, sworn said, I have seen his writing and figures and to the best of my recollection they do not compare. Examines other papers and said, to the best of my judgment they were written by the same hand.

John Laramore sworn said, received letters from him, examines letter and judges it does not look alike. Am not familiar enough with letter or comparing letters. Can't tell peculiarly about his writing. Some of his letters wrote very poor. This letter is written in a better hand.

C. W. Dawdy sworn, said, am familiar with Wasem's writing. Seen him write bills. This letter don't look like it to me.

A. L. Breckenridge sworn said, am acquainted with Wasem's writing. Examines letter. Say he writes in a bolder hand, what I have seen begins large ends small. Compares letters. Very much alike in general make up, but letter is written better.

A. R. Baker sworn, examines letter, says, does not look like what I have seen, it is not the same general appearance of his letters.

Chauncy Ross, sworn said, am acquainted five years with Wasem. I saw some of his writing. Traded on time with him and carried pass book. Examines letters "does not compare or look like what I have seen."

Clarence Carpenter sworn said, am acquainted with Wasem and his handwriting. This does not look like any I have ever seen. Differs in S's, letters more uniform, better writing, different in U's, no not particularly different in U's, some crossed near the middle and some near the top. Notice U's crossed at the top or near the top.

Defence rests. After the arguments of prosecution and defence, Mr. Wasem was bound over by Justice Winslow, in the sum of \$2,000 to the next term of the District court. The bond was furnished by friends in the court room, directly after the preliminary hearing was ended.