

## STERN'S BODY

### FOUND IN RED

BADLY DECOMPOSED BODY OF CLEVELAND MAN FOUND NORTH OF MOORHEAD.

Fargo, April 14. —The body of Ed. R. Stern, who disappeared from Cleveland, N. D., Feb. 2, and for whom an untiring search has been made, was found seven miles north of Moorhead this morning by Sheriff Whaley and Toby Edwards, where it had been washed by the high waters of several weeks ago. The body is badly decomposed, but papers found in the pockets served to identify it.

When Stern disappeared he was known to have a large sum of money on his person. That foul play may have been the motive of his death is borne out by the fact that his dog, whose dead body was found near the man's attracted the attention of residents near the river one night early in February, when it stood by a hole in the ice of the Red river and maintained a doleful howling until driven away. It is believed that the dog later followed his master through the hole in the ice. Only nine cents was found in Stern's clothing.

The last authentic reports of Stern being seen alive was the day he left Jamestown for the east. Sheriff Romer of Stutsman county hastened to take the same train, but the officer alighted at Valley City while Stern continued. A few days before that Stern had sold a large tract of land near Cleveland, and collected his first payment of about \$450 at the office of the land agent in this city. He was a farmer and as there was little for him to do at that time of the year he told his relatives he would take a vacation, visiting his mother in New York and friends in Aberdeen. Before his return, for this reason, nothing was thought of his absence for the first few weeks, but when he did not write home, inquiries sent to different places told the family that he had not been seen.

Foul play was suspected at once, and the search has been continued by his brother, S. A. Stern, a butcher in Cleveland, and members of the orders to which the dead man belonged. There were rumors at frequent intervals that he had been seen but no real trace of him could be found. He leaves a daughter about six years old, whom he placed in the care of his brother when he prepared for his vacation. It is said his affection for the child was unusually marked, and it was his failure to write her or send her the customary little presents while away that led the family to suspect foul play. Stern's wife has been divorced for some time. There are several pieces of valuable property in Cleveland in Stern's name and when the farm land demanded attention a few weeks ago, his brother was appointed administrator of the estate, although nothing has been done to divide his holdings, and the search for him was conducted as energetically as before.