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Courier Want Ads. are Time Savers.

INQUIRY RECALLS BREMER LYNCHING

STORY OF AN ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE CRIME.

Young Soldier, John McRoberts, Strung Up to a Tree.

Waverly Democrat: The Cedar Falls Record last week published an item stating that a Washington pension attorney had made inquiry as to the whereabouts of John McRoberts, a member of the Third Iowa regiment during the civil war, or of his surviving relatives.

The matter has been called to the attention of Mr. McRoberts' relatives, and by them referred to Attorney J. Y. Hazlett, who, having ascertained the name of the attorney making the inquiry, has written him to ascertain its cause. The assumption is that something in the way of pay or allowances are due McRoberts from the government.

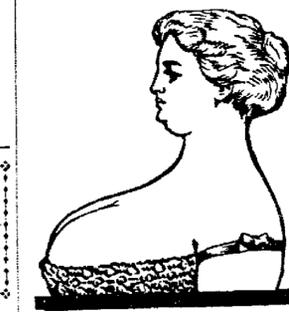
The inquiry recalls one of the strangest as well as one of the most despicable examples of mob violence that ever occurred in this country, the victim having been the John McRoberts referred to.

Just after the war horse stealing was of such frequent occurrence in this country that, exasperated beyond measure at the utter failure of the officers to cope with the situation, citizens organized a protective association called the "Horse Alliance" to check the thievery and run to earth the perpetrator of the crimes. As the settlers were mainly poor, the loss of a horse was a very serious matter and feeling ran so high against the malefactors that the public conscience was ready to approve of any kind of punishment that might be meted out to them.

In this peculiar state of the public mind, John McRoberts and a young companion indulged in what on other occasions might not have been regarded as more than a lark, or at most a misdemeanor that would merit but a light punishment. McRoberts had served with entire credit during the war, enlisting first in the Third Iowa and re-enlisting in the Thirty-Eighth regiment when the term of his first enlistment had expired. Unmarried and imbued with the reckless spirit that many young soldiers brought back with them from the war, his quota of wild oats had not yet been sown when, in the fall of 1868, he engaged in the escapade that cost him his life, shadowed the lives of many others and soiled the pages of Bremer county history with a blot that, contemplated in the light of the calm surroundings of succeeding years, never has had the slightest justification for its making.

At the time McRoberts was living with relatives between Waverly and Janesville, and while there he was visited by a comrade of his regiment, a care-free and happy-go-lucky lad like himself. One day they decided to visit some girls they knew at Cedar Falls and started to travel there afoot. As they left the McRoberts home, John's sister-in-law called after them to "be sure and not get into any trouble," and they laughingly assured her that they would keep her advice in mind. But they had tramped but a mile or two when the sight of some horses browsing in a field suggested to them the idea of riding at least part of the distance, and it did not occur to them that it would be

Take Off the Fat Where It Shows



Most women suffer much humiliation because of great quantities of fat, so located that, no matter how they dress, everybody sees that they are abnormal. This is the day of the slender figure, and fat women are simply not tolerated either in business or social affairs. Women may not know it, but men when they see a fat woman pass them on the street make all manner of sympathetic remarks about her. They do not mean to be unkind or to seem unmanly, but it is natural for man to dislike fat on a woman. Where fat shows the most there is where it must be removed, and as quickly as possible. The hot weather dresses seem to be made for the fat woman's misery and the slender woman's delight. They expose all the charms of woman and her ugliness as well. Exercise and diet will not remove fat. This has been proved. The famous Marmola prescription which has met with such phenomenal success and has so many of our society women as its sponsors, is now being sold in tablet form to meet the demand of the public for this style of treatment. These little tablets go into your system just like food. They stop the stomach and digestive apparatus from producing fat and reduce the fat upon the body at the rate of from 12 to 15 ounces a day. They are harmless and can be carried in your purse and taken even after you have indulged in a hearty meal away from home. They are sold at all drug stores at 75 cents a case, or if you prefer you may write the Marmola Co., Dept. 385, Detroit, Mich.

either dangerous or very wrong to avail themselves of the use of the horses. So they improvised some bridles for the nags and rode them about two-thirds of the way to Cedar Falls, where they released the animals and started them homeward—where they arrived in due time none the worse for their experience—the young men again pursuing their journey afoot. But the horses were missed soon after they were taken; men had been seen riding them through Janesville; the alarm was given; and what the young soldiers had regarded as a mere lark became a very serious matter, as the story of their escapade was passed from mouth to mouth and its heinous aspects became magnified with each re-telling. A sheriff's posse was soon in pursuit and many members of the "Horse Alliance" were soon in the saddle. A deputy sheriff arrested McRoberts at Cedar Falls, but his companion somehow managed to escape. The captive was brought back as far as Janesville, and there held, it is alleged, throughout the night, while members of the association assembled. Whether some sort of trial was held or what not, is a story that was kept well sealed within the breasts of those who knew it. At any rate the captive was condemned, and the next morning attested a ghastly denouement in the shape of the lifeless body of John McRoberts suspended from a tree in a pasture about two miles south of Waverly. As eager as the public was to see horse thieves punished, there was widespread indignation when the circumstances of the lynching became known, and all members of the association, which included men prominent in the community, had to suffer the odium that attached to the organization, whether they were directly concerned in the despicable business or not. An investigation followed, but came to naught. No oath-bound society ever kept its secrets better than did these men, but as time passed, whispered accusations were made against a dozen or more and whether they deserved it or not they had to bear the contumely that thus became attached to them and which the lapse of years tended not to dim or erase.

Though the early morning scene about the tree where John McRoberts had his life unjustly taken from him has never been described, tradition has it that he cursed his slayers and predicted for them lives of misery and woe. Most of those who were alleged to have been concerned in the deplorable affair have long since passed away but it is not difficult to find an old settler who will recount for you the manner of their passing and to find therein a verification of the theory that John McRoberts' curse rested upon them to the very end of their days.

No matter how long you have suffered, Foley's Kidney Remedy will help you. Mrs. S. L. Bowen, of Wayne, W. Va., writes: "I was a sufferer from kidney disease, so that at times I could not get out of bed, and when I did could not stand straight. I took Foley's Kidney Remedy. One dollar bottle and part of the second cured me entirely." It will cure you. Wangler Bros. and J. K. Joder & Son.

IOWA BOY SHOOTS COUSIN, KILLS SELF, Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 25.—Mabel Brooks, a pretty 15-year-old girl, was shot twice and dangerously wounded by her cousin, Albert Marhon, 23 years old, who then sent a fatal bullet through his brain, on Fernwood avenue, Bay View Tuesday afternoon. Marhon died at 7:05 o'clock. His victim, although she was shot in the left chest and in the back will recover. Both were taken to Emergency hospital.

Unrequited love for his cousin is given as the cause of the tragedy. Marhon, who is a son of Henry Marhon of Greenfield, Ia., and had been visiting in the home of the girl's mother, Mrs. Minnie Brooks, was deeply in love with his cousin. On account of the girl's youth, she did not return his affection and this drove him to remorse. The result Tuesday afternoon was wholly unexpected by the girl's folks. Marhon fired three bullets at her, but one went wild. They went out walking and a witness of the tragedy saw Marhon drop back a few feet and the next moment he heard three shots, followed by a fourth. The girl staggered upon the walk screaming with pain. Marhon fell to the sidewalk with a bullet through his right temple. News Received at Home. Greenfield, Ia., Aug. 26.—A telegram announcing the suicide of Albert Marhon in Wisconsin, was received here yesterday morning. His father, Henry Marhon, is an old resident here. The young man left some weeks ago to visit his relatives in Wisconsin.

FOOTBALL TALK AT "OLD WEST HIGH"

Time for football is near at hand and a team is to be organized to represent "old west high" school. They should turn out a fast bunch with some of the new material and the old players that will join the try-out squad. A captain has not yet been elected and will not be until some time later. Either Sharp or Whittle are favorites for the position. Prof. Mallory, the star baset ball coach, who has also had considerable experience in football will likely coach the eleven this fall. Contracts for games will be sent out in a few days. Candidates for positions on the team are Keoster, Sharp, Smith, Sweltzer, Speer, Trask, G. Whittle, H. Whittle, Chapman, Schlaberg, Cole, Gates, Kirkpatrick, Nesbit, Woodruff, Spang, Payne, Shaffner and Shirley.

Miss Margaret Montgomery, who has been in charge of the English department of the west high school for a number of years, has been compelled to resign her position on account of ill health. Miss Montgomery has been traveling through the west all summer and it is her intention to remain in the western country for the next year in the hope of regaining her strength.

MISS MONTGOMERY RESIGNS POSITION

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MINISTER TOLD TO LEAVE TOWN

FORMER DAVENPORT DIVINE IN TROUBLE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Other News Gathered From All Over the State.

Davenport, Aug. 26.—A telegram received here states that the town of Goshen, Mass., is in an uproar over the Rev. Samuel H. Seccombe, the former Davenport minister and a delegation from the church there, from which he was last month forced to retire, have visited the minister and informed him that he must leave the town within two days or take the consequences. The minister declined to say whether he will obey the command.

An investigation, the church people assert, shows that the minister's famous quadruplets are "spurious." They say that Mr. and Mrs. Seccombe were married in Chicago, Nov. 9, 1908, and say the story he told here of their premature birth in May is not true.

The minister was asked to explain the assertion that he had a divorced wife now living somewhere in the west and that previous to going to Goshen he had lived for a time with an unmarried Oklahoma woman and the church people say he did not explain to their satisfaction. People who are acquainted with the Seccombe family in Chicago and the neighbors living at No. 2143 Fulton street, say no babies were born in the Seccombe household, but claim that a baby was adopted in April and they are sure that Mrs. Seccombe's house was not entered by a burglar, which was asserted to have been the cause of the alleged premature births. Now the principal interest centers about the question as to what the minister will do about the demand that he leave town.

Dies of Delirium Tremens. Clinton, Aug. 26.—Richard Gabbit, a Charlotte, Ia., butcher succumbed to an attack of delirium tremens in the county jail yesterday, having been brought to the jail a week ago suffering from alcoholic poisoning. The man's condition did not appear to be dangerous and he died very suddenly at the jail.

Child Killed by Wagon. Dyersville, Aug. 26.—Edward Conrad, the two-year-old son and youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Conrad, was killed on Main street here at an early hour last evening, while he was trying to climb off the delivery wagon of Ernster & Krimmer, a horse being driven by his elder brother.

Standard Oil Plant Burned. Dubuque, Aug. 26.—At 3:40 o'clock Wednesday afternoon fire started in the oil room of the Standard Oil company at the foot of Main street and threatened to wipe out the entire plant. The room where the fire started is where the oil is drawn off in barrels for shipping. The fire spread rapidly and within ten minutes the entire building, a structure about one hundred feet square and two stories high, was a seething mass of flames.

North of the building are the storage tanks holding thousands of barrels of oil. A determined fight was made by the department to save these and in this the firemen were successful.

Comes a Man from Red Oak Who Has Something to Say About Melon Seed

Well, the craze has reached Des Moines. Chas. Rogg has secured the honor of representing the new Compound Melon Seed—whatever that is. Seriously, the demand for the Dr. Nott treatment is something almost unprecedented. In all probability there were twenty people interviewed during the day who had purchased the Compound Melon Seed. There can be no question as to the sincerity of the persons interviewed. Just for example I give one. Frank Johnson, on a visit from Red Oak, said: "I had no faith whatever in this thing or anybody. I had spent thousands on doctors, having a complication of diseases, and although I had to find it out from the doctor, not knowing it before. I had a bum set of kidneys, liver and bladder, as well. I was sick all over. I don't know what is in the stuff—don't care—but I do know that the third bottle did the trick for me and that I am free from every symptom and as sound as a dollar, and feel better than I have for ten years. What do you think of it? I had a long interview with the representative; he states that the people who were originally interested in the Nott discovery have awakened to the fact that there are good gold dollars to be made by recognizing the tremendous demand that has clamored for the treatment. One druggist here bought a carload of this wonder-working medicine. Has it struck Waterloo yet?" Knapp Drug Co.

After two hours of hard work on the part of the firemen, the fire was kept within the main building and literally burned itself out. The loss on the building and equipment is estimated at \$50,000 and that on stock about \$25,000. Had the oil tanks just north of the building caught fire or exploded the lumber yards adjoining could not have been saved and the loss would have been immense. While the origin of the fire is somewhat in doubt, it is thought that friction from the nozzle, rubbing on one of the iron barrels being filled caused a spark which ignited the oil.

To Show Beet Culture. Waverly, Aug. 26.—Earl Moore, secretary of the Iowa Sugar Co., left Tuesday for Des Moines with a lot of things from the sugar factory for a display at the state fair. Before he left he dug up an average sugar beet following the tap root and some of the lateral roots to show how the root for moisture and nutrition. He followed the tap root five feet down when it broke off. Some of the lateral or side roots are two feet long. He took this beet with the rest of the exhibit. In the exhibit at the fair there will be 200 sugar beets grown by fifty different farmers; there will be samples of sugar made at the Waverly factory, jellies and preserves put up with sugar made from beets at this factory, and samples of sugar beet seed. There are in the exhibit beets showing proper cultivation and beets that were not properly cultivated. Mr. Moore will show that surface cultivation is the best. He will exhibit a map of Iowa showing the counties in which sugar beets are grown for the Waverly factory; also where the sugar factories are located. He has a number of photographs of fields with crops after sugar beets had been grown on the ground. The Waverly factory and the beet sugar industry will be well represented at the state fair by Earl Moore.

Our Record!

Before buying an automobile you usually want to know what kind of a record the machine has made, do you not? If you want a strong, durable touring car that would carry you to New York and back, you would not select a car that needed fixing every five miles would you? If you wanted a racer, you would not select a car that finished last in the race, would you? The same thing applies to education. We point with pride to our record because it has never been equalled. We enrolled over 270 students in the College of Commerce last fall. We have placed every graduate in a position that has cared to go to one, and we could have placed fully one hundred more if they had been ready. We graduated Miss Lulu Holland, of West Waterloo, from our Shorthand Department in eight weeks, which to the best of our knowledge and belief, breaks any previous world's record ever made. We gave Miss Nellie Stickney enough of our shorthand work in eight weeks to enable her to accept a position as private secretary to Senator Gates during the last session of the legislature, at a salary of \$90 a month. Mr. L. E. Goodyear, who will again have charge of our bookkeeping work, is writing a special text on bookkeeping to be used in our schools. Our schools were the first in the state to install all of the late office devices. Twenty-six of our students are working for the Chicago Great Western alone. We claim that the College of Commerce is one of the best equipped schools in Iowa. We give free books and blanks to the students who enter for a six or twelve months' course. If you are in doubt, visit the school and we will prove these things to you or send for full information concerning rates of tuition, etc.

ADDRESS College of Commerce Opposite Street Car Waiting Station, Waterloo, Iowa. BOTH PHONES

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HIGHLAND Waterloo's Beauty Spot

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Notice To Patrons of Waterloo Water Co.

Your attention is hereby respectfully called to the rules confining the use of water for sprinkling lawns to the hours between seven and eight A. M., or six to eight P. M. Also to the fact that sprinkling of lawns must be discontinued after the sounding of fire signal until fire is extinguished. Notice is hereby given that any one found sprinkling out of hours or during time of fire will be shut off without further notice. WATERLOO WATER CO.

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