

Bakersfield Californian.

Thursday December 17, 1908.

Fresno Minister Takes His Life

REEDLEY, Dec. 27.—Kneeling before a washbasin in a position which he had assumed hundreds of times in making prayer, Rev G. W. Donnel, a Baptist Minister of Reedley, yesterday afternoon about 12:30 sent a bullet crashing into his brain from the muzzle of a .22 caliber rifle. He had been suffering for some time from nervous prostration, and it is believed that he was insane at the time of the self-destructive deed.

He had shown signs of suicidal mania for some time past, and the signs have been recognized by his wife. He had been in bed for some weeks past and has not in a year had a regular charge as pastor of a church. Day before yesterday he asked to have a notary public come out to the family residence, which is a mile from Reedley, as he wished to have his property deeded to his wife, but this was not done and the shot was fired yesterday without the deed having been made.

Yesterday, shortly after noon, he went into the bath room of his house and his wife, feeling uneasy about him, tried to enter the room, but found the door locked. She became very uneasy and forced an entrance through a door from another room. She found her husband lying on the floor before a bureau, in a pool of blood, unconscious.

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