

Inmate's activities make front-page news in 1901

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It should be noted that the prisoner's suicide attempt preempted some of the newspaper space the *World* had devoted to an up-coming street fair in Bloomington. The fair included carnival acts.

On the evening of Aug. 31, the newspaper's readers were no doubt relieved to learn that Fitzpatrick was out of danger, but a playful reporter couldn't resist making light of the whole affair. "The friends of Sherman Fitzpatrick are pointing out that he ought to join the street fair company when it arrives here as

the wonderful glass eater."

Furthermore, the prisoner ate a hearty meal after a night of considerable discomfort. The *World* explained that Fitzpatrick was in "excruciating pains" and had expressed a desire to die in bed at home. Consequently, an ambulance was summoned, and he was granted what was thought to be his last request.

The newspaper concluded its coverage of the incident by reporting, "... as soon as the glass eater had reached the bed he was sound asleep, the guard being kept awake by his snoring. Sherman was taken back to the jail this morning and the doctor says that he is now out of danger."