

# DESTRUCTION

# IS WILFUL

VALUABLE PLATE GLASS WINDOWS  
AT FREIMUTH'S DAMAGED BY  
VANDALS.

NO REASON IS ASSIGNED

PROPRIETOR SATISFIED THAT IT IS  
MALICIOUSNESS.

Many Valuable Plates Have Been  
Cut and Others Broken By  
Missiles of Some Kind.

What has every appearance of a malicious attempt to destroy valuable property is apparent at the big department store of I. Freimuth, Lake avenue and Superior street.

Vandals during the past few weeks having done a great amount of damage to the plate windows of the store. At first it was supposed that the work was accidental, probably that of some intoxicated persons, but the frequency with which it has been done of late has led to the assumption that it must have been by design. The work consists of breaking windows by means of some swiftly sent missile, and often by cutting the glass with some sharp substance. Mr. Freimuth is determined that the destruction of property at his establishment be stopped and has employed a special watchman. In addition he has offered a reward of \$50 for information that will lead to the apprehension of the culprit.

There is about \$5,000 worth of glass in the Freimuth establishment, several plates being of the largest size manufactured. Somebody has drawn a glass cutter, or diamond, across the entire front of the large front pane on the West side of the main entrance. The line is drawn directly across the entire plate at a distance of about two and a half feet from the lower side of the sash. Not content with that the cutter was drawn in circles on the west side of the pane. The companion big pane on the east side is also damaged by some hard substance, but not so extensively as the other one. The cutting not only mars the appearance of the polished surface, but weakens it and causes it to be more likely to break in case of a strong wind. The plate set in the right side of the main entrance has a round hole in it near the top, which looks as if it might have been made by a rifle ball, but as the missile which was thrown glanced to the glass over the doorway and damaged it also, it could not have been a bullet, for that probably would have gone directly through.

The plate set in the side of the entrance to the shoe department was broken recently, a round hole appearing the same as in the pane just described.

During the past six weeks the damage to the glass has been occurring at short intervals and considerable new glass has been put in.

Mr. Freimuth says that he is at a loss to know who would want to keep up such a malicious destruction of his property, and as long as possible refused to believe that any body was guilty of doing it through design. But the persistence with which it has been kept up, and the manner in which it is done, has at last convinced him that somebody has been doing it purposely.