

DODGE CITY TIMES.

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THE DODGE CITY TIMES.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY
SHINN & KLAINÉ.
LLOYD SHINN. N. B. KLAINÉ.
Subscription, \$2.00 per annum—in advance.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

County.
Representative—R. M. Wright.
Commissioners—
A. J. Peacock, Chairman.
A. J. Anthony.
Charles Keith.
County Clerk—Jno. B. Means.
Treasurer—A. B. Webster.
Sheriff—Charles E. Bassett.
Register—James Langston.
Clerk District Court—Harry Boyer.
Probate Judge—Herman J. Fringer.
County Attorney—M. W. Sutton.
Surveyor—H. T. McGarty.
Sup't. Pub. Inst.—Thomas L. McCarty.

City.
Mayor—James H. Kelley.
Councilmen—
Hon. D. D. Colley.
Geo. B. Cox.
C. M. Benson.
John Newton.
F. J. Leonard.
Police Judge—Hon. D. M. Frost.
Attorney and Clerk—E. F. Colborn.
Treasurer—Lloyd Shinn.
Marshal—L. E. DeGer.
Ass't. Marshal—Ed. Masterson.

Township.
Trustee—P. L. Beatty.
Clerk—John B. Means.
Treasurer—Henry Nicks.
Justices—Lloyd Shinn, R. G. Cook and D. E. Baldwin.
Constables—P. Sughrie, Ed. Baldwin and David Morrow.
Officers of School District No. 1—F. C. Zimmerman, President; M. Collier Secretary; A. J. Anthony Treasurer.
School District No. 2—Director—W. C. Seward; Clerk, O. O. Boardley; Treasurer, V. Mellicker.

D. M. FROST,
LAW AND COLLECTION OFFICE, in
City Hall Building. Notary public and
real estate agent.

NOTICE. D'O'DOL

On left side or hip.
Any person disposing of my cattle in the above brands without written authority from me will be prosecuted to the extent of the law.
J. W. DRISKILL.

SOCIETIES.

RELIGIOUS.

PREACHING at the Union Church Building every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 12. Cottage Prayer Meeting every Wednesday evening.
REV. O. W. WRIGHT, Pastor.

L. O. O. F.

CORONA LODGE No. 137, L. O. O. F. meet at their hall, on Locust Street, every Saturday night. Visiting Brothers are cordially invited to attend.
GEO. F. JONES, N. G.
A. H. BOYD, Secretary.

THE TIMES JOB OFFICE

I NOW PREPARED TO PRINT ALL KINDS of posters, cards, letter heads, bill heads, shipping tags, envelope cards, circulars and blanks, in the latest and most attractive style.

GOLD

Great chance to make money. If you can't get gold you can get greenbacks. We need a person in every town to take subscriptions for the largest, cheapest and best illustrated family publication in the world. Any one can become a successful agent. The most elegant works of art given free to subscribers. The price is so low that almost everybody subscribes. One agent reports making over \$150 in a week. A lady agent reports taking over 400 subscribers in ten days. All who engage make money fast. You can devote all your time to the business, or only your spare time. You need not be away from home over night. You can do as well as others. Full particulars, directions and terms free. Elegant and expensive outfit free. If you want profitable work send us your address at once. It costs nothing to try the business. No one who engages fails to make great pay. Address "The People's Journal," Portland, Maine.

YOUNG MEN

BAYLIE'S Great Mercantile College, Keokuk, Iowa, on the Mississippi. Sixteenth year. About sixty dollars pay all expenses for membership, board and stationery. Bookkeepers, penmen, reporters, operators, architects, surveyors and teachers thoroughly fitted. Railroad fare reduced. Good situations. No vacancies. Don't fail to address Prof. Miller Keokuk, Iowa.

DOWN AND OUT.

The above is precisely our position relative to the DODGE CITY TIMES at the present time. We have sold our interest in the establishment. Mr. N. B. Klaine takes a hand in the management and we step down and out. In retiring from the TIMES we have no excuses to make or apologies to offer for anything which has appeared in its columns. All its past utterances are still our sentiments. The TIMES has always been free from political rings or party cliques, and the solid business which has been built up for it will enable it to stand fearlessly and independently alone in the future.

Mr. Klaine comes to us well recommended, and we have reason to believe that the patrons of the TIMES will lose nothing by the change.

W. C. SHINN.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The undersigned having become connected with the management of the TIMES, deems it necessary, following an established custom, to make a brief introduction.

Though a stranger to the people of Dodge City and Ford county, we shall endeavor to make an acquaintance that will prove lasting friendship. Here we have chosen our lot for weal or for woe, and shall cheerfully bear our share of the burden devolved upon us as a newspaper publisher, and of the duties necessarily entailed in the building up of a community.

The resources of this county are not wanting, and hence our labors in behalf of these natural advantages will be light. The fertile plains speak volumes in themselves. The tide of immigration is flowing in this direction, and with industry, prudence and economy, Southwestern Kansas will become the Garden of the West.

We do not gush with infatuation at first sight of these vast and fertile plains, but we rejoice that it is our good fortune to cast anchor in this sea of land, and of health, salubrity and fertility, where picturesqueness lends to the delight and admiration of the poet, the tourist, and the horny hand that seeks to till the immense broad acres. May we not indulge in the plaintive wail, "Millions of hands want acres," answering in the welcoming refrain, "Millions of acres want hands."

Our inception in the printing business extends over twenty-five years ago. During that period we have, we believe, served honorably and faithfully as devil, printer, and publisher and editor. We trust we shall not be found wanting in any of the requisites called for in the new field we have entered. Our purpose will be to promote the best interests of the town and community; and we shall endeavor to act impartially, and without fear, favor or affection.

To the brethren of the press we extend our introduction, and hope our relations may be amicable, cordial and pleasant. We eschew billingsgate. We believe the proper standard of journalism is fraternization; and "with malice toward none, and charity for all," but like the caparisoned gladiator, we shy our castor into the journalistic arena for an honorable combat for right, truth and justice.

N. B. KLAINÉ.

Spearville.

During a visit to Spearville this week it was surprising to note the rapid transformation of that late houseless prairie into the busy settlement which we now see, all around the village, and even as far as six miles west of it buildings are going up and claims being improved, and the most gratifying feature is the fact that the settlement is composed of an excellent class of honest, sturdy industrious persons. Spearville is bound to grow into a very formidable little city, and shortly too, as it has a large tract of country from which to draw support. Just at the present time a hotel and a blacksmith shop are demanded, and both these branches of business would pay handsomely.

POISON'S GHASTLY WORK.

WESLEY ATKINS BECOMES TIRED OF LIFE.

STRYCHNINE SENDS HIM TO ETERNITY.

On last Tuesday morning, Mr. J. E. Van Voorhis, the new justice of the peace, came up from Spearville, and informed Coroner Galland that a young man had died on the evening previous, of a violent death, supposed to have been caused by poison. Dr. Galland being unable to officiate in person, Justice Van Voorhis was authorized to act as coroner. He immediately returned to Spearville, accompanied by the editor of the TIMES. Arriving at the place where the suicide took place, a station on the A. T. & S. F. road, sixteen miles east of here, in this county, a jury was empaneled and the necessary witnesses summoned. After the jury had been sworn, the solemn procession, consisting of coroner, constable, jurymen, witnesses and spectators marched from Mr. Jonas Stafford's house to the railroad water tank, where the body of the deceased lay cold and stiff. It had been placed there the evening before to await examination. The body appeared to be that of a young man near the age of 21 years, not healthy in appearance, and the face bore a sad expression. The coroner and some of the jurymen examined the body, found no marks of violence, except that the lips were eaten as if by acid, and the body was swollen. In the pockets were some little notions and a letter from an uncle, but nothing to indicate the cause of the suicide. The jury returned to Mr. Stafford's and proceeded to listen to the evidence. A letter written by the unfortunate boy and mailed the day of his death, was first opened and read. We publish it verbatim:

SPEARVILLE, Nov. 26, '77.

DEAR AUNT: After a long time I will try and drop you a few lines. I am not getting along very well at present. I have it pretty rough. I have a very sore leg; it started from a boil, and I could not take care of it, and caught cold in it, and it has stopped me from doing anything. I don't know how I can get along this winter. I wish you would come out to Kansas and take land. I did not know where you were for a long time. I left the "Rock" a good while ago. I have work now but I cannot do it. I was at Larned to see French. I wanted money to get a team, but could not get it. He will keep me down as long as he can. He has made his brags that I will want to come back to him. His good neighbors told me he would give anything to get me back. If I could have got a team I could have got along very well this winter, but I cannot get it. He has his day now and mine will come some time, and when it does look out, for I will sink him as far as I can. He has no mercy and I will not know what it is when my turn comes. His wife told him he had better come to my terms, for she knew he would not have any more to pay with next summer than he has now. Write soon. From your nephew.

WESLEY J. ATKINS.

To Bell C. Williams, Altoona, Pa.
French, who is spoken of in the letter, is supposed to be his step-father, with whom he lived from the time he was eight years old until a few years ago, when they disagreed, and young Atkins left. What he means by saying he left the Rock we could not learn.

THE INQUEST.

State of Kansas, Ford county.
Testimony of witnesses taken this 27th day of November, 1877, at an inquest by the undersigned, J. E. Van Voorhis, a Justice of the Peace of Dodge township in said county, the Coroner of said county being unable to act on account of sickness; and a jury of six citizens of said county.

Mr. Samuel Parthemore being duly sworn says: I am stopping at Mr. Winan's; came down to the postoffice last night; as I came by the fence near the lumber yard I heard some one hallowing, but paid no attention at first; the sound of the voice came from between the switch and the main track near the lumber pile in Spearville; rode down to the freight car; came back by the lumber yard and still heard hallowing; the voice said "hallo! for God's sake come over here"; rode over toward where the sound came, but could see nothing for the darkness; it was about 7:30 o'clock, P. M.; heard some say "I am poi-

soned"; I said "how is that, who done it?" he said "I done it myself, for God's sake go down to Stafford's and get a cup of hot water and some salt"; after I started to Stafford's I heard him groaning; I went on to Stafford's and told Mr. Stafford what I had saw, and then went back; when I got back he was dying.

SAMUEL PARTHEMORE.

Mr. Z. O. How, having been duly sworn testified as follows: I am stopping with Mr. Stafford, working on the section; was in Mr. Stafford's house on the evening of Nov. 26, about 8 o'clock, heard some one calling, saying "there is a man up in the lumber yard who has poisoned himself"; I went out to the place and found a man lying in the lumber yard in a dying condition; that man was the same who now lies dead here, Wesley Atkins; I helped to pick him up and carry him into the house, and he soon afterwards died.

Z. O. HOW.

Mr. E. J. Davies being duly sworn on his oath testified: I am working for Mr. Stafford on the section; was setting in Mr. Stafford's house on the evening of Nov. 26, about 8 o'clock; a man came to the door and said "a man has poisoned himself out at the lumber yard"; myself and several others went out to the lumber yard; there we found a man lying on his face; we turned him over, picked him up and carried him into the house; I poured some salt and water down his throat, but he died a few moments afterward; this man was the same who now lies here dead. One week from last Sunday while we were at Mr. Stafford's, Wesley Atkins, the same who now lies dead here, told me he would not be afraid to shoot himself.

E. J. DAVIES.

Mr. Jonas Stafford being duly sworn said: The man who now lies here dead came to me on the 19th day of October, 1877, and went to work for me on the section the same morning. I never noticed anything peculiar about his actions until about eight days ago. About that time he returned from a two day's trip to Larned. He then appeared to be low spirited, sad and dejected. Kept getting more and more dejected, and talked about how he had failed to get some money from his step-father, near Larned, also complained of his sore leg. Yesterday morning he said if his leg did not get better he might as well quit work first as last. Yesterday morning he was unable to go to work. As I came home from work that day I met him near the house and asked him how he felt. He said he felt very badly. This was about two hours before he was found dying. He seemed to have no appetite for supper. Atkins was about 5 feet 8 inches high, had dark hair and eyes, weighed about 140 pounds, had light complexion and was rather good-looking, was about 21 years of age. Since last March I have had a bottle of poison hanging up in the tank in a bucket. I had it for poisoning wolves. It was accidentally knocked down one day last week and Atkins saw it. This was the same bottle found near my house to-day. When I saw the bottle last, before to-day, it was about one-third full of strychnine. When found to-day it only contained a few grains. It was about a half ounce bottle.

JONAS STAFFORD.

Mr. Wm. Roberts being duly sworn testified that he knew nothing more than was testified by other witnesses.

Mr. Parthemore being recalled said: On Nov. 27, I found a small bottle marked "poison" and containing strychnine, near Mr. Stafford's house, about a hundred yards from where the man Atkins was found dying on the day previous; the bottle was afterwards identified by Mr. Stafford as one he had kept in the tank, containing poison.

SAMUEL PARTHEMORE.

Mr. C. L. Meacham being duly sworn said: Yesterday Mr. Atkins was talking in my presence and wanted to know how much strychnine it would take to kill a wolf; said he knew it did not take much to kill a man; he talked considerable about strychnine and how much it would take to kill a wolf; I told him how much I thought it would take to kill a wolf; never heard him say anything about killing himself.

C. L. MEACHAM.

THE VERDICT.

Spearville, Kan., Nov. 27 1877.
State of Kansas, Ford County, ss
An inquisition holden at Spearville, in Ford county, on the 27th day of November, 1877, before me, J. E. Van Voorhis, a Justice of the Peace of Dodge Township, in said county, on the body of Wesley Atkins, there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are here-with subscribed. The said jurors upon their oaths do say: That on the evening of the 26th of November the said Atkins came to his death by the means of strychnine administered by his own hand in testimony whereof the said jurors have hereunto set their hands the day and year aforesaid.

MURRY WEAKE, Foreman
C. H. STEEN
JONAS STAFFORD
GEORGE HALL
THOS. HADLEY
G. W. BECKE

All who attended say the ball given by the Fort Dodge Social Club last Wednesday evening was a very well conducted and pleasant affair.