

SUICIDE AT McHENRY

of Life, Ralph Turner "Shuffled off His Mortal Coil"—Killed Himself with Winchester Rifle.

The citizens of McHenry were startled Saturday afternoon to hear that a man had been found dead in this village.

J. M. Wassenberg who owns the opera house had occasion to go upstairs about 2 p. m. and on going into the northwest corner room found the dead body lying across the bed. He at once notified the officers, and under the instructions from the county coroner, Justice P. S. Dunham proceeded to impanel a jury, which consisted of H. S. Halvorson, F. Cruden and W. O. Lowden. Search of the body revealed nothing by which it could be identified. \$1.20 was found on a table in the room, which he evidently placed there, but no note was left telling where the people lived, could be found, why he did the rash act. He was partly dressed, having on pants, shirt and socks. It was evident from the position of the body that he had taken a 32-20 Winchester rifle that hung on the wall, sat down on the side of the bed, placing the gun to his right temple held it in position with his left hand and pulled the trigger with his right. The thumb and forefinger of his left hand were burning and the trigger of the gun had dropped onto the floor while the muzzle was pointing against his legs. After the shot was fired he fell back across the bed, face up, in which position he was found.

The deceased was twenty years of age and came to McHenry, from Fargo about two weeks ago, and commenced work on Ole Tweete's threshing machine. Soon after commencing work he complained about not working well, and Tuesday before

his death John Wassenberg brought him to McHenry and gave him a room over the opera house. He called to see Dr. LeBien several times and complained of his stomach troubling him, but nothing serious however appeared to be the matter with him. He had several prescriptions filled at the drug store and had considerable medicine on hand at the time of his death.

The last person who saw him alive was Ole Alfstad who called to see Wassenberg about noon but found no one in the room but the deceased, who informed Alfstad that he thought Wassenberg could be found at the barn. Nothing peculiar was noticed about his actions or conditions at this time.

Dr. LeBien made an examination and found that the ball had entered the head just forward of the right ear and fractured the skull on the left side, but did not come out. Death was instantaneous.

Mrs. Bert Huntley and her sister Miss Louise Lattin, became acquainted with the deceased over a year ago and were able to identify him.

The evidence showed that he had threatened to shoot himself some time previous.

His mother, Mrs. Lydia Boarders lives on a homestead about twelve miles from Donnybrook, N. D. Of his two sisters one lives with her mother and the other at Scranton, Iowa. Not hearing from his mother as to the disposition to be made of the body it was buried in the cemetery north of town.

The verdict of the jury was that the deceased came to his death by a bullet being fired into his head with his own hands and with suicidal intent.—McHenry Tribune.

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