

BINFORD RESIDENT COMMITTS SUICIDE

**E. R. Schoondyke, Proprietor of
Livery Barn, Ends His Life
Sunday Afternoon.**

E. R. Schoondyke, proprietor of the livery barn here, was found dead in his office Sunday afternoon with a 22 calibre bullet wound in his head, above the right temple. It was a clear case of suicide.

Robert Carrol was first to make the discovery. Mr. Carrol keeps his cow in the barn, and along with his children, he had gone to the barn, just at dusk to do his chores. On reaching the barn he intended to go into the office room to light his lantern, and on opening the door he discovered the prostrate form outstretched on the floor and closer examination revealed a pool of blood at his head and it was then that the horror of the situation dawned upon him. He immediately went to the home of Frank Rice and apprised them of what had occurred, and soon after the news spread over the entire village.

From all appearances the deed was committed shortly after 5:00 o'clock. The position of the body on the floor bears out the belief that he stood before the mirror when he fired the fatal shot, as he fell nearly directly backward, the rifle lying at his feet near the wall, his right arm was outstretched and the left was doubled up so that the hand was under the body. The rifle which he used was of a 22 calibre, and a 22 calibre long bullet was used. Besides the one which was shot, another was in the magazine and still another lay on the floor near the body, evidently dropping from his hand when loading the magazine.

During the day he was perfectly rational, but from all accounts he had planned on taking his life for some time, as his actions around the house lead to that suspicion, because he had asked for the rifle several times but his wife, knowing of his melancholy disposition, feared the worst, and refused to let him have it. Again on Sunday morning he asked for it to go hunting rabbits with Frank Rice, and thinking he would do nothing desperate in company with others, she condescended. They returned about noon and he left the rifle in his office. During the afternoon he assisted Mr. Rice to reach the manes on his horses, and appeared in good spirits then. At four o'clock he went to his house and remained there until five o'clock and then went to the barn, but was told to return in a short time for lunch. Before leaving the house he did nothing unusual to arouse suspicion and it is hard to contemplate the feeling of the survivors when the news of the horrible deed was brought to them. The coroner was notified of what had taken place, and advised Dr. Truscott to remove the body to the home, which was done, and that evening Undertaker Oslo came up from Cooperstown to embalm the body. Sworn statements from some of those first on the scene, proved beyond a doubt, that deceased had met death by his own hands.

Financial troubles is believed to have been the cause of him committing the rash act. Mr. Schoondyke came here from Granville, two months ago, having traded his half section farm near there to O. K. Krogfoss for the livery barn. There was a payment yet to be made on the barn, and that added to his worries. It is known that he was not satisfied at all times with farm life, while at Granville, and on several occasions he had mentioned making a change.

About a year ago he was kicked by a horse and occasionally he would be troubled with dizzy spells, and would not be in complete possession of his mental faculties. He was a peculiar man, of a quiet disposition and seemed not to care for the company of others. He made very few acquaintances in his two months res-

dence here, and some of our people do not remember of ever having seen him.

The remains were shipped Tuesday to Colfax Iowa, where a brother and other relatives reside. Besides his wife and mother-in-law who was living with them, there are five children, Harold, Morris, Richard, Ernest and Margaret, the oldest being 10 years and the youngest 18 months.

He carried no life insurance, but we understand he made application for some in the Woodmen of the World, since coming here, but that of course would be of no value to the beneficiary under the circumstances. A policy which he carried in the M. W. A. was allowed to elapse, we have been informed.

It is not known what disposition Mrs. Schoondyke will make of the livery barn.

The Times joins with all in extending heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved ones.

Farm Produce

One of the great advantages in trading with the home merchant is the fact that such transactions are often in the nature of an exchange. While the home merchant sells goods to the farmers, he takes from them their produce in eggs, butter, vegetables and poultry. Not only that, he takes it. Of course the reader of these lines makes good butter, or his family does, but there are those among his neighbors who are not so skillful. The home merchant buys the produce of the poor buttermaker as well as that of the other, although he must lose money on it in the selling.

Now that the parcels post has gone into effect, there is offered one good way by which the country purchaser may test the interest of the mail order man whom he has patronized. The producer may now send eggs to the city by parcels post. There is a ~~box~~ ^{box} which will hold sixteen eggs and stand a pressure of 200 pounds. The rules of the parcel post admit of the transportation of eggs, butter and poultry. It would be well to try if mail order houses will accept some produce in exchange for goods. We have never heard of such deals be made but it is certainly a fair proposition. It will give the country buyer a clear idea of the relative value, to him, of the mail house and the home country store.

No, the best interest of the farmer requires that he should buy at home. Give the home merchant your entire patronage and he will accommodate you in every way possible. Not only that but he will work for the growth of your country and for the increased value of your farms. The only way is to Buy At Home.

Meet your friends at the Opera Club Room, and spend a pleasant evening at bowling or pool. Full line of cigars and tobacco and soft drinks.

STOVES

The cold winter

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