

**S Obituaries pre-1923, not previously shared
(from Monica Schirmer Eshelman)**

Date of death: 17 Jul 1901

Subject: Emma A. (Sanborn) Grems

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 19 Jul 1901, p. 3

Maryville, Mo., July 18.—Mrs. John G. Grems, wife of Postmaster Grems, died yesterday forenoon at her home on East First street, after an illness of nineteen weeks, during which time she was a great sufferer. Her health had been poor for several years. A husband, two sons and two daughters survive her. The children all live in Maryville, and are named Adella, [Louis], Charles and Luella. Mrs. Grems' maiden name was Emma Sanborn. She was born in Lowell, Mass., April 26, 1847, and was married to John G. Grems ... at Owatonna, Minn., ... thirty four years ago. ... were proprietors of the ... Hotel and Central Hotel both of which have been torn down long ago. The burial will occur from the family residence Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and will be conducted by Rev. E. B. Lyt... Methodist Episcopal ... she was a de... will be in the Miriam Cemetery.

Date of death: 1 Aug 1907

Subject: Emma Salena Sanborn

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 7 Aug 1907, p. 10

Friends in St. Joseph of A. G. Sanborn, county clerk at Seneca, Kan., have been advised of the death of his wife at Seneca, which was followed closely by the death of his daughter, Lena, in Denver, Colo., where she had gone seeking relief from asthma. Mr. Sanborn had taken the child [sic] to Denver in the hope that her health would improve there, but she died within six hours after reaching the city. Mr. Sanborn has a wide acquaintance here and in Andrew County and northern Kansas. He was formerly engaged in the newspaper business and for several years was a mail agent on the Grand Island road.

Date of death: 7 Apr 1905

Subject: Mrs. Rosa Lee Sanders

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 8 Apr 1905, p. 2

Mrs. Rosa Lee Sanders, aged 23 years, wife of George W. Sanders, died yesterday morning at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Martha Copeland, 513 South Tenth street.

The funeral will be conducted from the First Christian church at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning. Burial will be at Green graveyard, north of the city.

Date of death: 12 Nov 1907

Subject: Jewell Sarver

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 13 Nov 1907, p. 6

Mrs. George W. Sarvers [sic] died at 11 o'clock today, at the family residence, 2218 South Twenty-second street. The infant son of the dead woman died yesterday evening. The body of

the infant was taken to Union Star, Mo., this morning, and was being interred at the time of the mother's death.

Date of death 6 Feb 1903

Subject: Mrs. Isabelle Saxton

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 7 Feb 1903, p. 7

Isabel Saxton, wife of Paul Saxton, aged 46 years, died at 8 o'clock yesterday morning at a local hospital of heart failure after operation. The body will be sent to Maryville, her home, for burial.

Date of death: 30 May 1904

Subject: Ulrich Scheidegger

Source: *St. Joseph News and Press*, 30 May 1904, p. 9

Ulrich Scheidegger, aged seventy-eight years, died of a complication of diseases at his country home, nine miles east of the city, at 5 o'clock this morning. He was an old resident of this county, having lived near St. Joseph for over forty years. He is survived by a widow and two sons, Christian and Andrew, and one daughter, Anna.

Date of death: 3 May 1909

Subject: John Schindler

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 7 May 1909, p. 8

There is a mystery connected with the trunk of the late John Schindler. Schindler, who was an aged gardener, died the first of the week at the home of a relative, Albert Schneider, about seven miles northeast of the city.

For eight or nine years Schindler had been a boarder at the Blum hotel, Second and Felix streets. He lived in a most humble way and no one suspected that he had much property. During his last illness he was removed to the home of his relative from the hotel. He insisted that the trunk be taken with him.

Since his death it has been learned that he owned stock in the German-American Bank company, that he had money on deposit with the Bartlett Trust company, and that he had money loaned to substantial farmers of the county. So far about \$3,000 worth of property has been found. That more evidence of wealth may be contained in the trunk is the theory of friends.

Schindler was about 75 years old. He was a fruit tree trimmer and general farmer and gardener. Application will be made for letters of administration by relatives.

same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 9 May 1909, p. 1

Papers representing a value of nearly \$5,000 were found in a trunk belonging to John Schindler, who lived the life of a recluse at the Blum hotel for the past seven or eight years.

Schindler died a few days ago at the home of his nephew, Albert J. Schneider, northeast of St. Joseph. He made a request that special care be taken of the trunk. When this was opened it was found to contain a lot of old clothing and his papers which show that he was worth about \$4,800. There were two notes for \$1,500 each and one for \$1,000, all secured, and one \$500 note and another \$150 note not secured. Besides he had about \$160 in the German-American National bank and Bartlett Trust Co.

Schindler was a bachelor but he left numerous relatives. He is survived by a brother and half brother in Doniphan county, Kas., four or five children of a deceased sister and some of her grandchildren in Doniphan county, three nieces and four nephews, children of a deceased sister, living in Buchanan and Andrew counties and six children of a deceased daughter of this dead sister.

The tax on the estate for the state seminary fund [sic] will be 5 per cent. The estate has been admitted to probate by Judge Imel.

Date of death: 4 May 1905
Subject: Mary Rosina Schneider
Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 4 May 1905, p. 6

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Schneider died at 12 o'clock today at the family residence, nine miles northeast of St. Joseph.

Date of death: 14 Apr 1903
Subject: Conrad H. Schottel
Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 16 Apr 1903, p. 6

H. C. Shottell [sic], a pioneer farmer who lived twelve miles east of St. Joseph, died at noon Tuesday and was buried this afternoon at the cemetery of the German Evangelical Church, three miles south of Cosby. Mr. Shottell was eighty-six years of age and is survived by eight children. He had been a resident of Buchanan County for fifty years.

Date of death: 17 May 1913
Subject: August Schultse
Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 18 May 1913, p. 4

August Schultse, ... years old, died yesterday at the county farm where he will be buried today.

Date of death: 28 Jan 1918
Subject: Allen Earl Scott
Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 29 Jan 1918, p. 6

Allen Earl, the two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Scott, 19?? South Fourth street, died last night at a local hospital.

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 30 Jan 1918, p. 6

Allen Earl, two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Scott, 190? South Fourth street, died last night at a local hospital. Services will be at ... with burial in Green cemetery.

Date of death: 18 Oct 1918

Subject: Dorothy R. Scott

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 Oct 1918, p. 6

Dorothy, four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Scott, died at the home of the parents, 725 1/2 South Ninth street, last night, of influenza.

Date of death: 24 Nov 1902

Subject: Emma Scott*

Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 25 Nov 1902, p. 6

Emma Scott, colored, single, aged fifty-six years, died yesterday at her home, St. Paul and Wat....

Date of death: 20 Oct 1918

Subject: Frederick H. Scott

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 21 Oct 1918, p. 6

Frederick, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scott, died Sunday afternoon at the home of the parents, 727 South Ninth street, of influenza.

Date of death: 7 Aug 1907

Subject: James M. Scott

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 7 Aug 1907, p. 6

James M. Scott, fifty years old, died this morning at 9:50 o'clock at 1902 Lafayette street. Tuberculosis was the cause of death. He was buried in the city cemetery this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Date of death: 15 Jan 1906

Subject: Thomas J. Scott

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 22 Jan 1906, p. 7

Helena, Mo., Jan. 21.—J. Tom Scott, formerly of Rochester, but now of Amizonia [sic], died Monday morning and the body was brought to this place yesterday morning. It was taken to Rochester cemetery for burial.

Date of death: 16 Jun 1900

Subject: William H. Scott

Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 17 Jun 1900, p. 6

W. H. Scott died yesterday morning at 4:30 o'clock at his home near Avenue City, in Andrew county. Mr. Scott was 85 years old, and had lived in Andrew county for more than half a century. Death was caused by inanition due to his extreme age.

Mr. Scott was born in West Virginia in 1815. In 1844 he came from that state to Missouri, settling in Platte county. He was one of the earliest settlers in the Platte purchase. After living in Platte county for a few years he moved to Andrew county, near the present site of Avenue City, where he remained until his death. Six children, four sons and two daughters, survive him. His wife died several years ago. The funeral will be held from Bedford Chapel, near Mr. Scott's former home, tomorrow afternoon.

Date of death: 18 May 1909

Subject: Gutierraz Sebastian

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 May 1909, p. 4

G. Sebastian, forty years old, died last night at 6 o'clock. He had been working with a section gang on the Rock Island railroad and contracted pneumonia.

Date of death: 12 Feb 1901

Subject: Oliver B. Seers (or Sees)

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 13 Feb 1901, p. 2

Oliver Sees [sic], thirty-three years old, died a short distance south of the stock yards at 8 o'clock last night. He was in destitute circumstances and his death was due to consumption. County Physician Morton had been treating him for some time and the county court had supplied the family with provisions for several weeks. A report was made to the South St. Joseph police station that three hours after the man's death the body was left lying in exactly the same position it was in when the end came, the family being too poor to employ an undertaker.

This report proved to be erroneous. County Physician Morton was informed of the man's death and as the neighbors expressed a willingness to care for the boy it was decided not to send an undertaker to the house until this morning. Sees leaves a wife and two children, a boy aged eight and a girl aged five years. So far as the county authorities have been able to ascertain the family has no relatives in this part of the country. Sees' remains will be buried by the county today.

same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 14 Feb 1901, p. 5

The funeral of O. B. Seers, aged thirty-two years, of South St. Joseph, was held yesterday afternoon. The burial was in the city cemetery north of the city.

Date of death: 9 Aug 1906

Subject: Mrs. Laura V. Seevers

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 11 Aug 1906, p. 8

Mrs. Lula B. Seavers [sic] died yesterday morning at a local hospital. She lived at Savannah, Mo., and the body will be forwarded there for burial. She is survived by her husband and one child.

Date of death: 20 Feb 1907

Subject: Mahala J. Selecman

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 23 Feb 1907, p. 5

Savannah, Mo., Feb. 23—Miss Mahala Selecman died at the home of her brother, A. B. Selecman of near Rea, Wednesday, and will be buried here today.

Date of death: 24 Feb 1899

Subject: Mary E. (Selecman) Bedford

Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 25 Feb 1899, p. 5

Mrs. Mary A. [sic] Bedford, aged 69 years, died at Asylum No. 2 yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. She was the wife of A. M. Bedford, a wealthy farmer living near Savannah, Mo.

Date of death: 25 Apr 1893

Subject: Armsted Selectman*

Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 26 Apr 1893, p. 3

Armsted Selectman, one of the oldest colored men in the city, died at his home at 901 Douglass [sic] street, at 2:25 a.m. yesterday. The funeral will be at the A.M.E. church on North Third street at 2 p.m. today.

Date of death: 28 Feb 1893

Subject: Mrs. Eliza Sewall

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Mar 1893, p. 3

The funeral of Mrs. Eliza Sewall, the unfortunate old lady who devoted her life and finally gave it up for her demented son, occurred yesterday from Thornton & Pegan's undertaking rooms, Rev. Bushnell conducting the services, which were quite largely attended. King ladies of the city had secured sufficient funds to give the deceased a good burial, and the remains were tenderly laid away, a said [sic] commentary on the neglect and selfishness of the people who should have extended needed air to one most deserving.

Date of death: 19 Oct 1917

Subject: Charles Shaw

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Oct 1917, p. 6

Charles Shaw, 73 years old, died yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, while being taken to a hospital. The aged man had lived at the Salvation Army hotel for the last ten years, where he was janitor. Yesterday morning he complained of feeling bad but attended to his regular duties, that of calling the guests and making the beds. At noon the clerk noticed the man apparently suffering and summoned Police Surgeon V. R. Wilson, who later called the public welfare physician, who

found the man almost beyond medical aid. An ambulance was called and the man started to Noyes hospital, but he died on the way. Coroner Thomas was notified and ordered the body taken to H. O. Sidenfaden's morgue. Attaches of the hotel said last night that Shaw had a son in Omaha and two sons in Chillicothe, Mo.

Date of death: 18 Mar 1923

Subject: Charles Shivel

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Mar 1923, p. 5

Charles Shivel, 65 years old, died Sunday night at a local hospital. The body is at Heaton-BeGole's.

Date of death: 5 Sep 1906

Subject: Mrs. Shoemaker*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 6 Sep 1906, p. 8

Mrs. Shoemaker, an aged colored woman, died at a local hospital yesterday afternoon of tuberculosis.

Date of death: 27 Jun 1905

Subject: William T. Silvers

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 27 Jun 1905, p. 6

The lifeless body of W. T. Silvers, an inmate of State Hospital No. 2, was found early this morning lying in a heap on the floor of his ward, his head and torso being suspended in the air by a rag roped and drawn tightly about his neck and ... the head of the bed ... hands ... abrasions ... being ... use. [*Several lines illegible*] The body was removed to the undertaking establishment of Faris & Barber, by order of Coroner Bansbach, who held an inquest late this afternoon. The body will be forwarded to Cosby, Mo. for burial.

Silvers, who was a farmer near Cosby, was admitted to the hospital thirteen months ago, suffering from abject melancholia. He was watched closely, as it was suspected that given the opportunity he might take ... was ... patient and ... regarded as dangerous.

... night at ... locked into the ... rooms ... 12 o'clock last night when Silvers apparently was sleeping. The attendance ... lifeless body.

Silvers is supposed to have taken the rag on one of his hands and to have looped it about his neck, after securing it to the top of the bedpost. By placing the full weight of his body on the rag he slowly strangled himself to death.

The dead man was fifty-seven years of age and was born near Cosby in Andrew County, in which vicinity he spent the greater part of his life. His widow survives him.

Date of death: 18 Aug 1907

Subject: Mrs. Elizabeth Simmons

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 Aug 1907, p. 6

Mrs. Elizabeth Simmons, seventy-eight years old, widow of George Simmons, died this morning at a local hospital. The cause of death was senility. Burial was in the city cemetery this afternoon.

same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Aug 1907, p. 8

Mrs. Elizabeth Simmons, aged 78 years, widow of George Simmons, died yesterday morning in a local hospital. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon. Interment was in City cemetery.

Date of death: 24 Feb 1903

Subject: William Simmons

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Apr 1904, p. 1

Maryville, Mo., April 19.—Dr. O. C. Kessler, for the past ten years a practicing physician and proprietor of a drug store at Ravenwood, was arrested in his store today by Deputy Sheriff William Tilson on an indictment charging him with murder in the first degree.

The information against him is to the effect that he was directly responsible for the death of William Simmons, a poultry dealer at Ravenwood, Feb. 24, 1903, Simmons having died on that date as a result of strychnine poisoning.

The cause of death was never questioned by the physicians who attended Simmons in his last moments and there was never any thought that the man intentionally took his own life, but notwithstanding those facts no post mortem examination was ever made over the body and no inquest was held. The body was laid in the ground more than a year ago and the arrest of Dr. Kessler today is the first step that has ever been taken to throw any light on the affair.

On the day of the tragedy Simmons entered the drug store of Dr. Kessler and went behind the prescription case. The store at that time was in charge of a fourteen-year-old negro boy, Harry Schooling, the proprietor of the place being absent on a professional visit.

Simmons was in the store but a few minutes and left for his poultry house, about two blocks distant. Arriving there, he was suddenly taken sick and was in such pain that he summoned Dr. George Douglas. When the physician arrived he found every indication of strychnine poisoning. The unfortunate man died within twenty-five minutes after he had taken the fatal dose.

No inquest was held and the body was finally taken to the home of the man's father, Jonathan Simmons, at Sheridan, where it was interred and the incident apparently soon forgotten.

The grand jury which met at the court house in Maryville February last took up the matter, and an indictment was returned which has been in the hands of the clerk of the court since that time. It is understood Dr. Kessler was not arrested any sooner in order that the prosecuting attorney, W. A. Blagg, might gather all the evidence possible before taking him into custody.

The arrest today created no little excitement in both Ravenwood and Maryville and there has been a good deal of talk about the tragedy of a year ago.

Probably one of the important witnesses at the trial of Dr. Kessler will be Alex. Smith, a farmer living near Ravenwood. Smith stated today that he nearly lost his life as the result of strychnine poisoning a day or two before Simmons died. He claims that he and a friend entered the store and in the absence of the doctor helped themselves to a drink out of a bottle that usually contained whiskey. They took but one drink and after leaving the store mounted their horses and rode away.

They had gone but a short distance when they suddenly became dizzy and their limbs began to cramp. Both supposed that they had been poisoned and they staggered into a farm house to secure some milk. They both drank several glasses, vomited freely and although they were sick for several days, they finally recovered.

It seems that several of the citizens of Ravenwood had been in the habit of entering the Kessler drug store in the absence of the doctor and helping themselves to drinks and it is claimed that the proprietor of the place some time before the Simmons tragedy made a statement to the effect that if they didn't "stop coming in here and running over his n---¹ that they would drunk out of the bottle for the last time."

Although Dr. Kessler has been one of the most prominent residents of Ravenwood since his residence there, he is not a stranger in the criminal court of the county. The last grand jury indicted him on three counts for selling liquor without a license and he pleaded guilty to all, being fined \$10 in each instance.

Date of death: 15 Dec 1912

Subject: George W. Simpson

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 16 Dec 1912, p. 4

G. W. Simpson, forty-eight years old, died at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at a local hospital. Not much is known of the dead man or his relatives and the body is held at H. O. Sidenfaden's.

Date of death: 1 Feb 1915

Subject: Sadie (Slaughter) Fredricks*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 30 Mar 1915, p. 3

Sadie Fredericks [sic], a negro woman, had provided insurance money not only for her two former husbands and one of her mothers-in-law, but for her sweetheart at the time of her death. She left probably \$400 or \$500 insurance, and yet about \$40 in debts of her estate remain unpaid.

The woman died in February and left nothing except household goods. One of her former husbands, who inherited some of the life insurance, paid for part of the funeral expenses. The

¹ The newspaper uses the full word.

estate was put in the probate court yesterday so an administrator could be named and an effort made to realize enough from the household goods to pay for the remainder of her debts.

Date of death: 17 May 1890

Subject: William T. Smallwood

Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 18 May 1890, p. 3

The officers and members of Chester Harding Post No. 182, G.A.R., are hereby requested to meet at their Post Hall on Edmond street, at 2 o'clock sharp this afternoon, Sunday, May 18, to attend the funeral of their late comrade, Wm. Smallwood. The members of Custer No. 7 and John Whalen Post No. 453, are respectfully invited. P. V. Wise, Commander, I. Taylor, Adjutant.

Date of death: 17 Feb 1903

Subject: Charles D. Smith*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 18 Feb 1903, p. 1

One man was killed and two were seriously injured as the result of a Burlington wreck which occurred at water works station about two and a half miles north of the city, about 6:40 o'clock yesterday evening ... dining car on the Portland-Billings ... 42, from the northwest, was ...

[The dead] man is:

Charles D. Smith, Chicago, negro waiter.

[The injured] are:

... Bowen, negro waiter, right arm ... chest scalded.

... dining car conductor, badly ...

... time of the wreck only the attendants were in the car. Supper has [sic] just ... passengers had gone to the ... coaches. The dining care was the last in seven. It was probably owing to the late hour that no more serious losses ... resulted.

The wreck is said to have been caused by the rear truck leaving the rails. From what could be learned from members of the wrecking party, the last ... was switched to a side track in some manner and in this way turned the car over.

Aside from the man who was killed and the injured men, the occupants of the car were negro attendants named Walter, Green and Harvey. They escaped without injury.

Dr. J. C. Ferguson, the companys' [sic] physician, was a passenger on the train. He attended the injured men, who were brought to St. Joseph as quickly as possible. Bowen, who was hurt

seriously, was taken in an ambulance to the Ensworth hospital. Blood was able to leave without assistance.

Superintendent A. T. Perkins of the Burlington was on train 32, which immediately followed the wrecked train. The Burlington has established a telegraph station at the water works station and word was immediately sent to this city for a wrecking train. No. 42 was delayed only twenty minutes. The dead and injured were brought to this city and Superintendent Perkins left ... wrecking train a short time later.

It took until 11 o'clock to clear the wreckage. Train No. 31 to Creston was delayed three hours, No. 41 to Billings, two hours and No. 26 from Omaha one hour.

After he had returned from the wreck, Superintendent Perkins positively refused to discuss the wreck or the cause.

When called upon at his residence he said:

"Good night. I won't talk to you now."

None of the passengers of the train were injured, although those in the car adjoining the diner were shaken up by the shock of the car being thrown from the track.

Smith, the death waiter, was about forty-five years old. His home was in Chicago where he is survived by an invalid widow. He was well known in St. Joseph, having run out of here several years.

Coroner Doyle will hold an inquest probably tomorrow. Just what caused Smith's death ... by a hasty examination ... the coroner. The only ... a cut on the right ear ... back of the car. Death ... resulted from internal injury or injury in the brain.

Date of death: 21 Jul 1901

Subject: Cicero Smith*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 28 Jul 1901, p. 3

Because he could not bury his brother the same day that he was taken to Sparta cemetery, eight miles south of St. Joseph last Monday, Homer Smith, who lives at Olive street between Eighty and Ninth streets, was Saturday afternoon arrested on a charge of "executing a nuisance." The warrant was sworn out by S. D. Gann, a prominent farmer of Center township.

The warrant was taken to Chief Frans of the police department Saturday morning by a son of Gann, who is a deputy constable. Chief Frans sent for the negro, who had been a slave belonging to the chief's grandfather, and told him of the warrant. The chief instructed Smith to go to Justice Warburton and give himself up, which he did about 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Justice Warburton set the case for August 3.

The body of Cicero Smith was the cause of his brother's troubles. Cicero died of consumption Sunday night at a farm near Bee Creek Junction where he was staying for his health. Home took his brother's body to the entrance of the Sparta cemetery Monday morning. He was compelled to have it unloaded from the wagon in which it was brought, at the cemetery gate.

Homer then searched in vain for some one to assist him in digging a grave. He spent most of the afternoon in trying for help but had to give up at night. He allowed the body to remain at the cemetery as he could not take it to any of the adjoining farm-houses. He came to St. Joseph and Tuesday found someone willing to assist him. It was afternoon before Cicero was finally laid to his last rest. The misfortune of Homer stirred some of the farmers to wrath. The warrant for his arrest was the outcome. Homer is forty-nine years old and has lived in the county practically all his life. He is a hard working negro. Cicero was forty-five years old and lived with his brother here until he went on the farm for his health.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 23 Jul 1901, p. 7

Because of the superstitious dread of negroes, the body of Cicero Smith, who died Sunday morning at Agency remained from noon Monday until the same hour today at the entrance to the cemetery at Sparta, eight miles south of St. Joseph, waiting for some one to bury it.

County Physician Graham, who was notified this morning, sent a man to Sparta to dig a grave for the dead negro. The body was not embalmed and the plain black coffin in which it was encased was insufficient to keep the hot sun from having its effect on the remains.

Cicero Smith and his brother Homer, at whose home the former died, are well known characters in Buchanan County. Their parents were slaves of the grandfather of Chief of Police Frans near Agency in antebellum days, and they have resided in that neighborhood all their lives. Cicero was the victim of matrimonial misfortunes which ended in reducing him to abject want and sickness. Last winter he was found in an ... house near Agency, suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia. He was taken care of by County Physician Graham, who had him admitted to the country farm. Consumption developed and Smith's chances for recovery grew less day by day.

His brother Homer, who was very much attached to him, took the sick man home some weeks ago. During a recent visit to the city Homer Smith met Doctor Graham and the latter asked him how Cicero was faring.

"He's gettin' along mighty fine, Doctah," said Homer. "He's takin' coal oil for his consumption and int's [sic] doin' him good."

Sunday morning Cicero Smith died. He was to be buried yesterday. The faithful brother bought the best coffin he could afford and the negroes of the neighborhood were notified that the funeral would be held Monday. But no one appeared to attend. The two brothers had always been regarded with awe and dread among the people of their color and it was broadly hinted at times that they practiced voodooism—negro witchcraft.

At the appointed hour Homer placed the rough coffin into the wagon and drove away toward Sparta cemetery. Country graveyards have no sexton, the neighbors usually officiating in that capacity. When the forsaken funeral procession arrived at the cemetery Homer Smith found himself in a predicament. There was no one on the spot save the members of his own family—women and children. The coffin was deposited on the ground and the bereaved brother made an effort to find a grave digger.

Men of his own color fled at his approach and white men would not consent to perform this act of charity for a poor black brother. Between superstition and race prejudice, Homer Smith had no choice but to leave the body on the ground until he could come to St. Joseph and apply to his old friend Doctor Graham. Tears streamed down his furrowed cheeks as he told his story.

"Doctah," he said, "cain't git nobody to bury ma poh brother, an' I ain't strong enough to do hit m'self."

A white man was found in the city willing to undertake the burial for the proper remuneration, and he left for Sparta accompanied by Homer Smith. By this time earth covers all that was mortal of Cicero Smith.

Date of death: 25 Jul 1905

Subject: George Smith*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 26 Jul 1905, p. 8

George Smith, a negro, aged 26 years, died at his residence, 1632 Frederick avenue, early yesterday morning.

Date of death: 24 Aug 1905

Subject: John Smith

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 26 Aug 1905, p. 8

The verdict of the coroner's jury at the inquest over the body of John Smith who was killed by a Burlington train, north of the Francis street station Thursday night, returned a verdict in substance that he came to his death by contact with Burlington train No. 18. The body was buried yesterday afternoon from Faris & Farber's undertaking parlors. Interment in the city cemetery.

Date of death: 30 Nov 1909

Subject: John Q./O. Smith*

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 30 Dec 1909, p. 5

The undersigned desire to publicly express their appreciation and heartfelt thanks to their friends and neighbors for their many acts and expressions of kindness and sympathy extended during the last illness and death of their father, John Q. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Smith, 1801 N. 2d st.

Date of death: 16 Apr 1907

Subject: Lucy (Smith) Colburn Carr

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Apr 1907, p. 2

Maryville, Mo., April 18.—Nodaway County's richest woman was buried here today when the body of Mrs. Charles C. Carr, who died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Whitnack, in Lincoln, Neb., Tuesday, was interred in Miriam Cemetery, after funeral services had been held at the First Methodist Church.

Mrs. Carr died while the guest of her daughter, the mother having gone to Lincoln last fall to spend the winter. C. C. Carr accompanied his wife, and he died there suddenly two months ago, and his body was brought to this city for burial, just as in the case of his wife's funeral today.

The couple were pioneer residents of Nodaway County, and owned jointly nearly 1,000 acres of land in different sections of the county. In addition, each had bank stock and personal property of other classes which made them both among the wealthiest of the county's residents. When Carr died his estate was reputed to be worth a quarter of a million dollars, and Mrs. Carr was supposed to possess almost half as much in her own right, in addition to her share in her husband's estate. All of the wealth of the couple goes to five children living in this state and in Nebraska.

Date of death: 12 Dec 1909

Subject: Sarah (Smith) Manorgan

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 14 Dec 1909, p. 8

Mrs. Sarah Manorgan, 42 years old, died at 6:30 o'clock Sunday morning at a local hospital. The body was taken to Quitman, Mo., yesterday morning for burial.

Date of death: 22 Mar 1902

Subject: Stephen Smith*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 24 Mar 1902, p. 2

Stephen Smith, aged ninety-six years, one of the oldest negro residents of the state, died Saturday at his home, 511 South Twentieth street.

Date of death: 27 Oct 1918

Subject: Mrs. Susie Smith

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Oct 1918, p. 6

Mrs. Susie Smith, forty years old, who lived at 1804 Bartlett street, died at 9:30 o'clock last night, of influenza, in a local hospital.

Date of death: 31 Oct 1909

Subject: infant daughter of J. W. Snipes

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 1 Nov 1909, p. 4

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Snipes died at 8 o'clock last night at their home, 1213 South Fifteenth street.

Date of death: 13 Nov 1903

Subject: Mary C. (Speaker) Simpson

Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 14 Nov 1903, p. 10

Mrs. Frank Simpson died at Flag Springs, Mo., Thursday morning at 2:30 o'clock and was buried at that place yesterday. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Speaker of St. Joseph, and the parents and other relatives here attended the funeral. Mrs. Simpson, who formerly lived in St. Joseph is survived by her husband and one child.

Date of death: 19 Dec 1915

Subject: John Henry Speece

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Dec 1915, p. 5

John Henry Speece, the 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Speece, 2429 South Fourth street, died of diphtheria at 4 o'clock yesterday morning at the family home. Besides his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Rebecca and Eva Speece, and two half brothers, Herbert and Roye Munson.

Date of death: 30 Nov 1905

Subject: Mrs. Mattie Spence*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Dec 1905, p. 2

Ripping her throat from ear to ear, then turning his pistol on himself, falling dead at the feet of his defenseless victim, John Stout, alias Lewis, a negro, at 6:50 o'clock yesterday morning killed Mrs. Mattie Spence, a negress employed as a cook at the Memorial home, and then took his own life. The police at first worked on the theory that the man and woman had fought a street duel, one killing the other. Developments later indicated a clear case of murder and suicide.

The tragedy occurred at Main and Poulin streets. There were no witnesses to the killing.

Stout was a packing house laborer living at 519 North Third street. Coroner Bansbach will hold an inquest over the dead bodies at 10 o'clock this morning, at Faris & Barber's morgue.

Insane jealousy is generally believed to have been responsible for the double tragedy. The woman and Stout are said to have been on intimate ... and her consequen... ing his affection... believed ... the killing.

Mrs. Spence was en route to her place of employment when she met Stout at the northwest corner of Main and Paulin [sic] streets. A heated argument in which Stout vainly pleaded with the woman to consider her ... and return to him is supposed to have resulted.

Her evident refusal brought about the determination on Stout's part, it is believed, to take her life. Pulling a .38 calibre pistol from his pocket Stout is supposed to have fired the bullet taking effect in the woman's temple. Falling to the pavement, her head resting on the curbstone, she lay

insensible. The theory advanced by the police is that Stout then drew a pocket knife and slashed his victim's throat from ear to ear.

It was then realizing that his designs were complete, that he turned his gun upon himself.

William McGee, a negro porter living at 1101 Main street opposite the scene of the tragedy was the first to reach the lifeless bodies.

Hearing two shots about thirty seconds apart, McGee rushed to the doorway of his home. Both lay on the ground. Stout was seen to move slightly. When McGee reached his side, life was extinct.

He notified the police. Before the arrival of the officers, C. S. Morgan, a guard at the city workhouse, reached the scene. At the side of the dead woman, he found a .32 caliber [sic] revolver, fully loaded. At Stout's side, he found a 38 caliber gun with two empty chambers.

Stout, the police say, during the past six weeks has threatened the life of the Spence woman. She was known by her friends to entertain fear for her life and carried a pistol.

That she attempted to use the gun when threatened by Stout yesterday morning the police believe caused the man to shoot the woman and then slash her throat with a pocket knife, which, three hours later was picked up sixty feet north of the scene of the crime.

No evidence of a struggle was discovered by the officers. The woman lay in the spot where she evidently had fallen when shot.

Stout lay a few feet away face downward.

Mrs. Spence was twice married. Raymond Spence, a 14 year old son and a daughter, Ada Bruce, 16 years old, survive. The dead woman was 38 years old.

Stout had something of a reputation as a prize fighter. Two years ago he took part in a preliminary bout before the Buchanan Athletic club in Turner hall. He was 35 years old. A wife, from whom he was estranged, lived at Sixteenth and Messanie streets.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 2 Dec 1905, p. 8

A coroner's jury returned a verdict of murder and suicide yesterday forenoon in the case of John Stout, also known as Lewis, a negro, and Mattie Spence, a negress, it having been found that the man killed the woman and then shot himself. The tragedy occurred Thanksgiving morning. The woman's funeral will take place at 2 o'clock this afternoon from Messick's undertaking rooms. Rev. J. C. Caldwell will have charge. No arrangements have been made for the man's funeral.

Date of death: 6 Nov 1916

Subject: Edgar C. Spencer

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 7 Nov 1916, p. 5

Edgar C. Spencer, 43 years old, 314 Edmond street, died at 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning at a hospital here. He was a painter and was born in Scotland. The body is at the H. O. Sidenfaden undertaking rooms. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Date of death: 9 Feb 1903

Subject: Frances Benton Spencer

Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 10 Feb 1903, p. 9

Savannah, Mo., Feb 10.—The little daughter of Doctor and Mrs. J. J. Spencer died Monday morning at Mound City and the remains were brought to Savannah Tuesday and placed in the Savannah cemetery. Mrs. Spencer was visiting her parents at Mound City.

Date of death: 14 Mar 1918

Subject: Marvina Sperry

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 14 Mar 1918, p. 6

Mrs. Hazel Sperry of Trenton, Mo., brought her baby daughter, who was suffering with a cold, to St. Joseph yesterday evening to place the child in the custody of the humane officer. She engaged a room at the National Hotel, 218 Francis street, and when she awoke at 4 o'clock this morning the child was dead. Pneumonia had developed, according to Dr. Forrest Thomas, coroner.

Mrs. Sperry had been living with her grandfather at Trenton, and came here to seek work. Her husband, Clifford Sperry, is a private in the One Hundred Thirty-ninth Infantry at Fort Sill, Okla. She has a little daughter in the Sheltering Arms Home, brought here last fall. The mother is nineteen years old. She will return to Trenton tonight. No arrangements for burial have yet been made.

Date of death: 17 Aug 1906

Subject: Felix Spugnardi

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Aug 1906, p. 6

The body of Felix Spugnardi, the boy who was drowned Friday evening in the Missouri river at the foot of Charles street, was found yesterday morning by a fisherman four miles below the bridge. It had been washed ashore, and had caught on some low hanging bushes.

The finder of the body notified the coroner, and did not give his name. When he asks for it the reward of \$50 offered by friends of the boy for the recovery of the body will be given to him.

The funeral will be at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the father's home, Second and Francis streets, to the Cathedral and thence to the city cemetery.

Members of the band composed of Italian boys, of which Spugnardi [sic] was a member, will march in the funeral procession in their suits. The uniforms arrived yesterday. The one belonging

to the body of Felix Spungnardi will be put on the coffin, and will be buried with the body. The band will not play on the way to the burial, but will give a few marches on the way back.

Date of death: 4 Dec 1906

Subject: George W. Sroufe

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 6 Dec 1906, p. 6

Savannah, Mo., Dec. 6.—George Sroufe, an aged citizen, died here yesterday. The funeral will take place today from the residence of his son, Jesse Sroufe.

Date of death: 17 Mar 1911

Subject: Darinka Stafanovic

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Mar 1911, p. 4

Darinka Stafanovic, three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Stafanovic, gypsies, died at 7 o'clock last night at 2215 South Eleventh street.

Date of death: 16 Feb 1910

Subject: Elizabeth (Stancliff) Maffitt

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 17 Feb 1910, p. 4

Mrs. Elizabeth Maffit [sic], aged forty years, died at 4:05 o'clock yesterday afternoon, at her home, 1515 North Twelfth street, of paralysis. She had been sick for a year and had been confined to her bed two months. Mrs. Maffit was the mother of James Hubbel, the three-year-old child who was burned to death December 9, 1908, while playing in the kitchen at the home of William Stancliff, 1516 North Twelfth street. She is survived by four sons.

Date of death: 15 Nov 1908

Subject: Ella C. Stancliff

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 16 Nov 1908, p. 6

Miss Ella Stanclift, aged 17 years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Stanclift, 1516 North Twelfth street, died at 9 o'clock yesterday morning. The funeral services will probably be held this afternoon.

Date of death: 10 May 1909

Subject: Dock Stanford*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 10 May 1909, p. 7

Fearing that he was to be done bodily harm, Fay Stanford, a negro, 16 years old, drew a revolver and shot and probably fatally wounded his father, Dock Stanford, 50 years old, yesterday afternoon in front of their home at 1705 Beattie street. The older Stanford is in St. Joseph's hospital with a bullet through his right lung, and his son is a prisoner at Central police station, having surrendered to Patrolman Lee Hill immediately after the shooting.

The affray yesterday afternoon was the result of a heated quarrel the night before, which became so prolonged that the police were twice sent to put an end to it. Dock Stanford objected because the grocery bill had been too large during the week. His stepmother retaliated by saying that he couldn't expect her to feed a boarder for the same money that she did the family alone. A negro bachelor has been boarding at the house for the past week.

The argument is said [sic] to have lasted during the greater portion of the night and to have been resumed yesterday morning. Dock Stanford is said to have been drinking and to have been in a quarrelsome mood. As he left the house he caught sight of his son, who, meanwhile, had armed himself with a revolver.

"That's the _____ that I'm after," yelled Stanford, according to witnesses. Then he started for young Fay who promptly drew the revolver and began shooting. Two shots went wild but the third lodged in his father's chest and penetrated the right lung. Dr. E. S. Ballard said that the wound would probably prove fatal. Fay Stanofrd [sic] is known as a hard working boy and has not been in trouble before. His father has been under arrest frequently for drunkenness and peace disturbance.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 11 May 1909, p. 6

Dock Stanford, the negro who was shot by his sixteen year old son, Fay, in front of their home at 1705 Beattie street, Sunday afternoon, died last night at St. Joseph's hospital. Two bullet holes punctured his right lung. Fay Stanford, who has been held by the police, will not learn until today that he is a murderer. Information charging him with first degree murder, will be filed in the criminal court today.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 12 May 1909, p. 8

A verdict that Dock Stanford, 50 years old, had met his death at the hands of his 17-year-old son, Fay, who shot him Sunday afternoon, was reached yesterday by a coroner's jury which held an inquest yesterday afternoon at Ramsey's undertaking rooms. A warrant, charging the youth with first degree murder was issued yesterday from Justice Nies' court. Fray Stanford was arraigned late in the afternoon and his hearing set for next Tuesday.

An autopsy was held yesterday by Coroner C. F. Byrd, who found where both bullets had lodged in the dead man's body. One was lodged in the breast bone and the other in the spinal column. The decedent is survived by a widow and seven stepchildren and by his own child, Fay Stanford, who shot him.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 19 May 1909, p. 4

That Fay Stanford, who shot and killed his father, Doc [sic] Stanford, May 9, did so while his father stood leaning against a fence, with the hand of an arresting officer on his shoulder, was evidence adduced yesterday at the preliminary hearing of the young negro before Justice Nies.

Stanford was held to the criminal court on a charge of murder in the first degree.

Two witnesses were introduced by Stanford. One was Porter Boyd, who said that Stanford tried to give him a revolver, at the same time telling him to go and shoot Stanford's father. The youth's other witness, Lee Mitchell, was no more favorable. The state introduced as witnesses, Dr. W. S. Carrion, W. H. Lewis and Walter Sample. Lewis is a special officer and had Doc Stanford under arrest when the shooting took place. Lewis stated that Doc made a remark, addressed to his son, that he would get even.

"You will, will you?" Fal [sic] is alleged to have replied and then to have fired.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 2 Oct 1909, p. 10

Declaring that her husband had often threatened her son, Mrs. Laura Stanford yesterday took the witness stand in defense of the 17-year-old negro boy, who shot his father dead at the family home, 1705 Beattie street, the afternoon of Sunday, May 9, last.

The story of the mother, so far as the shooting was concerned, was rather confusing. She said herself that she was so excited that she hardly knew how it happened. Her husband was learning against the front fence in charge of W. H. Lewis, a special officer, who had arrested him for drunkenness and peace disturbance, when the son came up. The trouble started at once and the son began to shoot, emptying a revolver and killing his father.

Several times Judge Ryan had to stop the mother from talking too much. She volunteered considerable information in defense of her son.

Stanford, who was 16 years old at the time of the shooting, was on the stand a short time only. In answer to questions by his attorney, John S. Boyer, he said that he shot his father, that he believed his father intended to kill him, and he described how the shooting was done. Cross examination by Prosecuting Attorney Keller did not change the testimony of the boy materially.

The youth said that when he came home, after having been out shooting birds, his father was standing at the front fence. When he saw the son, the boy said, his father threatened him and reached for his hip pocket as though he had a weapon. He also started toward the boy, the latter said, and when he feared for his life he began to shoot, continuing as his father advanced toward him.

A number of witnesses were examined by both sides, the object of the state being to prove that the boy was in no particular danger because the father was under arrest with the hand of the special officer on his shoulder.

The jury is composed of Victor C. Sommers, William E. Jamieson, William Richards, Richard Mason, Lon Pauley, H. W. Wever, F. Danbeck, Earl J. Cody, C. L. Custer, W. H. Huffman, Ora Rapp and T. J. Kiley.

The arguments will be made this morning.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 3 Oct 1909, p. 4

After the jury in the Fay Stanford murder case had deliberated three and a half hours yesterday the jury announced its verdict of not guilty through its foreman, W. E. Jamieson.

Stanford, a negro youth of 17, was charged with the murder of his father the afternoon of May 9. His father had been arrested for disturbing the peace and was at the front fence in custody of an officer when Fay reached his home on Beattie street. The father is alleged to have made a threatening remark and to have reached toward his hip pocket. Believing the father had a weapon, the boy said he fired, three shots taking effect. "Doc" Stanford, the father, died the next day.

Following the announcement of the verdict Judge Ryan gave Stanford a brief lecture and said he hoped he would lead an exemplary life in the future.

Date of death: 20 Dec 1909

Subject: Mrs. Laura Stanford*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 21 Dec 1909, p. 8

Laura Stamford [sic], aged 49 years, widow of Dock Stamford, died at 2:45 o'clock Sunday morning at the residence, 1705 Beattie street. The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon from the residence. Interment will be in Oakland cemetery.

Date of death: 16 Jun 1905

Subject: John W. Stephenson

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 17 Jun 1905, p. 7

Savannah, Mo., June 17.—J. W. Stephenson, proprietor of the St. Charles Hotel in this city, was hit by a Chicago Great Western train Friday morning about 3 o'clock and injured so that he died at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Mr. Stephenson was a night watch and policeman and was on duty when the accident occurred. Passenger trains Nos. 9 and 4 on the Chicago Great Western Railway, meet here and he was watching some suspicious characters when a train backed into him. He was cut and bruised badly. Soon as possible he was carried to the hotel and medical aid summoned and he was given relief as far as could be, but his injuries were too great and he died at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. An inquest is being held today.

Date of death: 6 Sep 1898

Subject: Missouri (Stevens) Gage*

Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 7 Sep 1898, p. 5

A middle aged negro woman, whose name is given as Missouri Gage, dropped dead, presumably from heart disease, at the home of George Knapp, Eighteenth and Felix streets at 10 o'clock last night. The body was removed to Heaton's undertaking establishment where the coroner will view the remains this morning. It is thought that an inquest will not be necessary. The deceased has no relatives in the city with the exception of a brother, John Stevens, who is employed as a porter at Lee's saloon, at the Missouri side of the river bridge. The dead woman was employed as a domestic in the Knapp household.

Date of death: 27 Jan 1909

Subject: Lizona S. Stevenson

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Jan 1909, p. 4

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Stevenson, 1208 South Eighth street, died at 4:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Date of death: 18 Apr 1906

Subject: John Joseph Stewart

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 Apr 1906, p. 7

Bolckow, Mo., April 19.—John Stewart [sic], a well known farmer and cattle raised of Nodaway County, died suddenly at his home near here yesterday morning. The funeral was held this afternoon from the late home.

Date of death: Nov 1909

Subject: _____ Stewart*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 25 Nov 1909, p. 4

With a sentence of 100 days in the workhouse hanging over his head "Snowball" Stewart, a negro police character, braved the mandate of the law yesterday and came to town when he heard that his mother was dead. "Snowball" came to the police station and asked Inspector Gibson's permission to stay in the city until his mother was buried. Upon his promise to stay sober and behave himself the inspector gave the negro permission to stay until after the funeral.

Stewart has continually been in trouble and a short time ago was fined \$100 which fine was stayed on the promise that he would get out of the city. Since that time the man has been employed on a railroad track gang.

Date of death: 25 Mar 1906

Subject: A. Wellington Stewart

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 26 Mar 1906, p. 2

Savannah, Mo., March 26.—A. W. Stewart, a Savannah poultry buyer, was killed in a railroad wreck yesterday morning.

Mrs. Stewart received a telegram yesterday that he had been killed at Coatsville, Penn. Mr. Stewart left here about March 17, with a carload of poultry, for New York City. Mrs. Stewart received a postal card Monday stating that he was in good health. That was the last heard from him until the telegram came notifying her of his death.

No further details have yet been received.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Mar 1906, p. 7

The Body of Poultry Man Killed Near Coatesville, Pa., to Arrive Tomorrow

Savannah, Mo., March ... the body of A. W. Stewart who was killed at Coatesville, Pa., ... will be brought ... day... funeral will be conducted ... the Christian Church Thursday ... Reverend Bowling of St. Joseph.

T... was ... by Mrs. ... mistake. Mr. Stewart ... a wreck but was riding on a freight ... of poultry on his way to New York City.

Mr. Stewart was an experienced poultry man, having been employed by some of the largest poultry houses in the United States. The dead man leaves his widow and two children, his father and mother and one brother, all of Valley Falls, Kan.; a brother in Barnard, two brothers in California and one sister in Barnard.

Same

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 30 Mar 1906, p. 15

Savannah, Mo., March 30.—The funeral of A. W. Stewart, who was killed by falling from a train in Pennsylvania Sunday, was held yesterday at the First M. E. Church. The funeral was largely attended and the body was laid to rest in the Savannah Cemetery.

Date of death: 27 Jan 1919

Subject: Ellsworth Franklin Stewart

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Jan 1919, p. 6

Ellsworth F. Stewart, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Stewart, 715 Angelique street, died at 6 o'clock last night in a local hospital.

Date of death: 6 Nov 1916

Subject: Robert M. Stewart

Source: *Brown County [KS] World*, 10 Nov 1916, Friday, p. 9

Robert M. Stewart, one of the best known and most respected citizens of Brown county, died at his home at Reserve Monday morning, Nov. 6, after an illness of several years. Mr. Stewart was 71 years of age. Both of his parents died when he was young and he was raised by an uncle near Savannah, Mo. After the Civil war in which he served as a volunteer in the 43rd Missouri

Infantry, Mr. Stewart came to Brown county and settled on a farm north of Padonia. He was one of the early settlers of the county. Shortly after coming to Brown county Mr. Stewart married Mary Jane Hart, a daughter of Thomas Hart. Four children were born to them, Misses Anna and Martha Stewart, Sam who runs the business in Reserve and manages the farms, and R. M. Stewart, Jr., of Council Bluffs, Ia. For a number of years Mr. Stewart ran the elevator at Padonia. He moved to Reserve 17 years ago and established the elevator and implement business which his son now carries on. In addition to his wife and children, Mr. Stewart is survived by one brother, Sam, of Savannah, Mo. Mr. Stewart had suffered with diabetes. Later he was seized with a paralytic stroke. During the summer of 1915 his condition became very critical but he rallied and in large measure regained his health. A few weeks ago he had another stroke which was the immediate cause of his death. The funeral will be held at the home in Reserve Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. Burial in Mount Hope cemetery. In the passing of Bob Stewart Brown county loses one of its very finished men. Bob Stewart spent an average life time in the north part of Brown county and accumulated a considerable portion of this world's goods. But his greatest gain during the long stretch of years in Brown county was the sincere admiration and confidence of all his acquaintances. The name of Bob Stewart has always commanded the utmost respect in Brown county. Mr. Stewart was one of those pioneers that came to Brown county right after the Civil war, in which he had fought to save the Union. And afterwards in every day life he strove to develop a new country and he builded [sic] well. It is such men as Bob Stewart that have made Brown county what it is. Those of the younger generation are now reaping the harvest of the crop of industry, integrity and neighborly good will sown by Bob Stewart and the others who came years ago to cast their fortunes with what was then regarded as a far western county. Bob Stewart, kindly, helpful man, has gone on, but the results of his 40 years or more of residence in Brown county will live forever. Because of what he has done during all his years with us, the death of Bob Stewart will be personally felt by people all over the county, and all the people of Reserve and vicinity feel the loss most keenly. Mr. Stewart had made himself so much a part of the community that his absence will be greatly noticed now, and in the years to come. But his friends and relatives can gain comfort from the knowledge that he fulfilled the obligation of a good citizen-- the greatest thing anybody can do. And Mr. Stewart raised a family of good citizens. His wife, his sons, Sam and Robert, Jr., and the two daughters are potent community factors and the Stewart children, and their children after them, will continue to upbuild Brown county and help Brown county people as Bob Stewart did before them. Thus the work and example of Bob Stewart will continue in this county for all time to come.

Date of death: 17/18 Feb 1902

Subject: Gertrude L. (Stiles) Hardy

Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 18 Feb 1902, p. 6

Gertrude L. Hardy, wife of James T. Hardy, died at 5:45 o'clock Monday afternoon at the family residence, 2222 Faraon street. Mrs. Hardy was forty years of age and had lived in Missouri her entire lifetime. She was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Stiles, of North Twelfth street. She leaves a surviving husband, James T. Hardy, a commercial traveler, her parents and brothers. Two brothers, Dr. H. W. Stiles and L. G. Stiles, city passenger agent of the Santa Fe, who reside in St. Joseph. A brother, S. S. Stiles, lives in San Francisco. The body was taken to Savannah, her birthplace, for burial.

Date of death: 6 Jul 1901

Subject: Mary Laura (Stilfield) Gordon

Source: St. Joseph Gazette-Herald, 07 Jul 1901, p. 7

Mary L. Gordon, age 52 years, widow of Charles H. Gordon, died Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Funeral will take place from her late residence, Park Ave. Hotel, South St. Joseph, Tuesday afternoon, July 9th, at 2 o'clock. Interment at Green cemetery.

Date of death: 22 Oct 1907

Subject: James W. Storm

Source: St. Joseph News-Press, 22 Oct 1907, p. 1

Maryville, Mo., Oct. 22.—James Storm, a pioneer resident of Maryville, died this morning at the age of sixty-five years. A wife and three grown children survive him.

The funeral will be held from the Christian church Thursday.

Date of death: 30 Nov 1905

Subject: John Stout (aka John Lewis)*

Source: St. Joseph Gazette, 1 Dec 1905, p. 2

Ripping her throat from ear to ear, then turning his pistol on himself, falling dead at the feet of his defenseless victim, John Stout, alias Lewis, a negro, at 6:50 o'clock yesterday morning killed Mrs. Mattie Spence, a negress employed as a cook at the Memorial home, and then took his own life. The police at first worked on the theory that the man and woman had fought a street duel, one killing the other. Developments later indicated a clear case of murder and suicide.

The tragedy occurred at Main and Poulin streets. There were no witnesses to the killing.

Stout was a packing house laborer living at 519 North Third street. Coroner Bansbach will hold an inquest over the dead bodies at 10 o'clock this morning, at Faris & Barber's morgue.

Insane jealousy is generally believed to have been responsible for the double tragedy. The woman and Stout are said to have been on intimate ... and her consequen... ing his affection... believed ... the killing.

Mrs. Spence was en route to her place of employment when she met Stout at the northwest corner of Main and Paulin [sic] streets. A heated argument in which Stout vainly pleaded with the woman to consider her ... and return to him is supposed to have resulted.

Her evident refusal brought about the determination on Stout's part, it is believed, to take her life. Pulling a .38 calibre pistol from his pocket Stout is supposed to have fired the bullet taking effect in the woman's temple. Falling to the pavement, her head resting on the curbstone, she lay insensible. The theory advanced by the police is that Stout then drew a pocket knife and slashed his victim's throat from ear to ear.

It was then realizing that his designs were complete, that he turned his gun upon himself.

William McGee, a negro porter living at 1101 Main street opposite the scene of the tragedy was the first to reach the lifeless bodies.

Hearing two shots about thirty seconds apart, McGee rushed to the doorway of his home. Both lay on the ground. Stout was seen to move slightly. When McGee reached his side, life was extinct.

He notified the police. Before the arrival of the officers, C. S. Morgan, a guard at the city workhouse, reached the scene. At the side of the dead woman, he found a .32 caliber [sic] revolver, fully loaded. At Stout's side, he found a 38 caliber gun with two empty chambers.

Stout, the police say, during the past six weeks has threatened the life of the Spence woman. She was known by her friends to entertain fear for her life and carried a pistol.

That she attempted to use the gun when threatened by Stout yesterday morning the police believe caused the man to shoot the woman and then slash her throat with a pocket knife, which, three hours later was picked up sixty feet north of the scene of the crime.

No evidence of a struggle was discovered by the officers. The woman lay in the spot where she evidently had fallen when shot.

Stout lay a few feet away face downward.

Mrs. Spence was twice married. Raymond Spence, a 14 year old son and a daughter, Ada Bruce, 16 years old, survive. The dead woman was 38 years old.

Stout had something of a reputation as a prize fighter. Two years ago he took part in a preliminary bout before the Buchanan Athletic club in Turner hall. He was 35 years old. A wife, from whom he was estranged, lived at Sixteenth and Messanie streets.

Date of death: 3 Jul 1907

Subject: Watson Strauss*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 4 Jul 1907, p. 5

Watson Strauss, 15 years old, a negro, the son of Walter Strauss, 626 South Eighth street, is believed to have been drowned in the Missouri river near Roy's branch on the Burlington yesterday. He and a party of friends, including Dudley Lyle, 214 Francis street, had gone to the backwaters of the river to go swimming, against his father's command.

His parent says he cannot swim, and that he had told him time and again not to go to the river. The Lyle boy reported the case to central police station, and the father was notified from there. The father and one small sister survive him. No trace of the body has been discovered.

Date of death: 18 Dec 1918

Subject: John Stumpf

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 Dec 1918, p. 6

John Stumpf, seventy-one years old, died at 8 o'clock yesterday morning at his home, 2415 South Second street, of influenza. He is survived by his widow and three sons and two daughters, as follows: Frank Stumpf, Kansas City; Edward and Fred Stumpf, Twin Falls, Idaho; Mrs. Harry Milleson, Marysville, Kan., and Mrs. Agnes Brogner, Kansas City.

Date of death: 30 Oct 1906

Subject: Peter Allen Stumpf

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 31 Oct 1906, p. 6

Peter Allen Stumpf, aged ... years and 5 months, died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stumpf, Second and Atchison streets, yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

same

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 31 Oct 1906, p. 4

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stumpf died yesterday afternoon of ... at the family home, Second and Atchison streets.

Date of death: 25 Aug 1907

Subject: Oscar B. Summers

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 29 Aug 1907, p. 2

Maryville, Mo., Aug. 29.—Although careful investigation has been made no positive reason has yet been assigned for the suicide of Oscar Somers [sic], a prosperous farmer who drank carbolic acid with fatal effect at his home near Barnard Sunday morning. Three brothers of the dead man who reside near Stanberry took the body to that place where the burial occurred Monday afternoon.

John Ramey, a renter, lived with his family on the Somers farm, and the owner made his home with them. Sunday forenoon the Rameys prepared to go to church, and as they drove away told Somers that his dinner had been prepared for him and was on the table. He answered "all right" and when Ramey and his wife returned home they found him dead. An empty one-ounce bottle was found on the bed beside the suicide and the label indicated that it had contained carbolic acid.

Somers claimed to be a single man but there is a rumor to the effect that he had a wife residing in Stanberry with whom he attempted to effect a reconciliation when he visited his mother there several days before he took his life. Somers, however, always stoutly maintained that he was a single man and had never married.

Date of death: 22 Mar 1912

Subject: Lois Irene Surles

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 22 Mar 1912, p. 6

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Surles, 2818 South Twenty-first street, died at 12 o'clock last night in a local hospital.

Date of death: 30 Dec 1908

Subject: Martha (Surnett/ Susnette) Morton*

Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 31 Dec 1908

Martha Morton, a negress, 66 years old, died suddenly yesterday at her late residence, 1318 Buchanan avenue. Coroner Byrd decided that death was due to heart disease. The dead woman was once a slave and her mother, 100 years old, survives her.

Date of death: 4 Feb 1919

Subject: Gus Swan²

Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 4 Feb 1919, p. 10

Gus Swan, seventy-eight years old, died at 8 o'clock this morning in a local hospital. He has no known relatives.

² Not in MSE Database, but in City Cemetery Project.