

he wheeled over towards the southeast corner of the room, to where the guns were, and caught hold of a gun, which fell down as he pulled at it. I saw he was going to fall, and threw out my knee and caught him. While in this position, I reached and caught the gun. I raised pa up and let loose of him. The last I saw of him just then, he was staggering towards the bed. I think ma had hold of him. I went to open the south door, but failed the first time. Made another grab and opened it, and went out into the hall. I heard some one jump onto the walk in front of the house. I ran out at the west door and looked south, and saw a man running south through the yard. I ran southwest some eighteen or twenty feet, and fired at the man who was running off. I did not see any gun, if the man had one. I only fired one shot. I am sure of that. There was but one load in the gun, a load of goose shot. I was standing southwest of the house and shot directly south of me. I made examination next day for the tracks of the man, but found none. I think the man was of medium size, wore dark clothes and had on a black hat. Until he got out of sight he was running at full speed in a southeast direction. The orchard is sodded with timothy meadow. The land south of the orchard fence is sown in rye, and was broken up about three or four weeks ago. The land east of the orchard is wheat stubble. A few minutes after the shooting George Wyatt and I went down through the orchard to see if I had hit him, but could find no trace. That was all the search that night. Some five or ten minutes after the shooting I went to Arkoe, which was in the same direction the man had ran. I waked up Mr. Turner and told him what had happened. I knew at that time he was shot through and through, for ma had shown me where the ball had grazed her leg. I also went to Mr. Wilson and told him about it. I did not tell them about the man's running through the orchard. I simply told him pa was shot. I never thought of arousing the people to search for the man. I did not think it was necessary. I thought the man I shot at was the man who shot father. I never thought at any time during the night about having search instituted for the man.

In accordance with the above testimony, the jury returned a verdict that Dr. Talbott had been assassinated by some unknown person.

From the very first, however, suspicion rested on the family. The ball which had passed through the murdered man plainly showed it was of rough manufacture, and that the rifles on it had been marked with a knife. The actions of the family were also very strange. There had been no effort made to arouse the neighbors or to pursue the assassin. Even while the doctor lay dying the family seemed almost unconcerned. Several other circumstances about the premises indicated that some member of the family had perpetrated the deed. The public were thoroughly aroused. The sheriff of the county, Henry Toel, and the prose-