

TRAGIC DEATH OF CLARENCE MAN

George Swearingen, Well Known Resident of This City, Found Drowned in Mississippi River. 1933

George Swearingen, well known resident of Clarence, and a life-long resident of Shelby county, met a tragic death by drowning in the Mississippi River near Hannibal, some two weeks ago. He had been missing from home, and at the time of his disappearance his relatives and many friends were distressed and alarmed over his absence. However, hope was entertained that he would return unharmed.

The first day of his absence from home, he was seen in Hannibal by his uncle and other friends. Nothing more was seen or heard of his whereabouts until Friday morning when Mrs. Swearingen was notified that his body had been found in the Mississippi River near Hannibal. The body had been found Thursday evening about 9 o'clock by Downing Glascock, who was fishing in the river. Glascock had drawn in his throw line to bait it when he discovered the body caught on the line. The coroner took charge of the body and had it removed to the Swartz funeral home at Hannibal. He was identified the next morning by his uncle, E. D. Swearingen. Papers were found in a billfold in his clothing indicating his name. There were no marks on the body to indicate foul play, and the coroner deemed an inquest unnecessary, signing the death certificate "Death by drowning."

He was well known in the county, especially Clarence and Shelbina. He had been a resident of Clarence a number of years, and during his residence here had been deputy sheriff of the county and formerly was employed by the Shelbina Chevrolet Co., of Shelbina.

He was born August 23, 1872 in Shelby county, the son of the late William E. and Isabelle Wood Swearingen. He was married to Miss Augusta Gunby, who survives; three sisters also survive, Mrs. H. R. Keith, Miss Freda and Miss Mable Swearingen, all of Shelbina; also his father-in-law, W. K. Gunby. His parents preceded him in death only a few years.

He was a member of the Clarence Methodist church, and was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias lodge of Shelbina.

The body was brought from Hannibal to the family residence here Friday evening, and funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at the Clarence Methodist church conducted by Rev. Wm. Rutherford and Rev. L. C. Maggart. Interment was made in Shelbina I. O. O. F. cemetery.

Dies in California 4. 1933

According to advices reaching here the latter part of the week Mrs. J. L. Sibley of Santa Cruz, Calif., but formerly a resident of Clarence, died at her home in that city last Friday at the age of 75. Mrs. Sibley was born in Marion county May 6, 1855, and was the daughter of the late Thomas S. and Keziah Sanford, who were numbered among the early pioneers of that county. She was married more than 50 years ago and had made her home in Clarence, later in California. Besides her husband she is survived by three brothers including Dr. S. Sanford of Palmyra, Lucullus Sanford of Round Grove township and Paul Sanford of San Jose, Calif., and a number of other relatives residing in Marion county.

They were well known in this vicinity as he operated a mill here many years ago. She was well known and loved by a wide circle of friends and was very loyal to her church being a member of the Clarence Christian church at that time.

DEATH COMES FROM INJURIES

James Melson of Lentner Died Sunday From Injuries Received Saturday. 1932

James Melson, one of the county's prominent citizens, died Sunday as a result of injuries received Saturday afternoon when he was struck by two cars on Highway 36 at Lentner.

Mr. Melson was crossing the highway with the mail and was struck by a car which was passing. He was knocked down directly in the path of another car going in an opposite direction and it was unable to avoid running over him.

An examination showed that Mr. Melson had suffered a broken leg and that his body had been crushed in a fatal way. He survived the accident but a short time.

Mr. Melson was long connected with the community affairs of Lentner. He was postmaster there for years, a stock buyer of note and was also in business there for some years. For several years he made his home in Clarence where he was manager of the Clarence Grain Company.

Mr. Melson was active in political affairs of the county and was one of the prominent leaders of the Republican party in the county. Some months ago he was appointed a member of the county road commission and was serving in this capacity at the time of his death.

James H. Melson was born near Clarence Feb. 6, 1860. He was the son of one of the pioneers of western Shelby county and lived in that section all of his life. He was married Jan. 6, 1887, to Amanda Jane Livingston. Eleven children were born to them, the following surviving, Mrs. Fred Boling, near Lentner; Raymond S. and Claude M., of Kansas City; Mrs. Harry Glahn of Shelbyville; Lew L., of Bethel; Mrs. Raymond Glahn of Clarence; Theodore E., and Mark M., of Kansas City, and Miss Marjorie of Clarence. He leaves also five grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. Wm. Taylor of near Clarence and a brother, Charles, of Redmond, Ore.

Funeral services were held at Lentner at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Burial was in the cemetery at Clarence.

DEATH OF MRS. L. C. STOVER

Kittie Arbella Arnett was born July 7, 1859 in Shelby county near Leonard and passed away Saturday afternoon at 2:20 o'clock, March 25, 1933 at her home north of Clarence where she had lived for about 43 years.

She was married to L. C. Stover February 16, 1882, to this union was born four daughters, Sybel, Judeth, Neva Arnett, Willey, E. V. Cassie and Kittie Mildred. Only one daughter, Miss Sybel, survives her. The other daughters with her husband having preceded her in death.

Mrs. Stover was almost a life member of the Christian church at Hagers Grove, having united with this church in early life. She was a devoted wife, a loving mother, a kind neighbor and loved by all who knew her.

Besides the one daughter, Miss Sybel, who has been so faithful in caring for her, she leaves to mourn their loss, one brother, Dr. W. Arnett, of Clarence, Mo., two grandchildren, Mrs. Edyth Wise, of Macon county, Carl Copenhagen of Clarence and two great grandchildren, Richard Dean Wise and William Arnett Wise, together with a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at Hagers Grove Christian church, Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock conducted by Rev. J. L. Shoemaker, of Macon. Burial was made in Hagers Grove cemetery.

DEATH ENDS 1932 LONG ILLNESS

J. J. Loft Died Last Wednesday at Home South of Clarence

Joseph J. Loft, an influential and prominent farmer of south of Clarence, passed away last Wednesday after several months of declining health.

He was born in Bracken county, Kentucky September 18, 1860, and came with his parents to Hancock county, Illinois when a small child. He was married in that county to Mary Elizabeth Wensel on March 10, 1881 who preceded him August 9, 1923.

Following his marriage he came to Missouri in the year 1882, farming in the vicinity of Novelty and Cherry Box until the year 1909 when he and his family moved to the present home.

Ten children were born to this union, three dying in infancy, the seven surviving are: Elmer E., of Shelbina, Lon L., of Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. E. R. Baker, Guy C., Nellie M. Naylor and Elsie O. Roy, all of Clarence, and Ernest L., of Collinsville, Okla. He is survived by thirteen grandchildren, one great grandchild, three brothers and three sisters. The brothers and sisters are: Charles of Brashear, Melvin of LaPlata, Edward of Clinton, Mary Wensel and Ida Stout of Brashear and Emma Stuart of Burlington, Ia.

Funeral services were held Friday morning at 10:30 o'clock at his home, conducted by his pastor, Rev. C. H. Bundy and burial was made in Maplewood cemetery.

Obituary 1932

Marion Bowman, son of Aaron and Mary Bowman, was born in Greenville, Tenn., December 14, 1845, died Monday morning, age 87 years at the time of his death.

He moved with his parents to Macon county when about six years old, then moved to Shelby county where he resided, moving to Clarence in 1930 where he remained until his death.

He was united in marriage to Miss Sarah C. Moore, March 6, 1879. To this union one daughter, Mrs. Jessie Elizabeth Chase, was born.

He united with the Methodist church in early life in the Anabel school house and lived a true Christian life always enjoying church work as long as his health would permit. He was one of our most honored citizens, plain in his life, true in his conviction and real in his actions.

He leaves to mourn his passing his widow, one daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Chase, two sisters, Mrs. Mary Crawford and Mrs. Melvina Massey, both of Clarence; four grand children and five great grand children and a large circle of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock conducted by Rev. R. A. Mitchell, and burial was made in Maplewood cemetery.

DEATH CALLS DR. J. M. McCULLY

Was Closely Connected With the Development and Progress of Shelby County. 1932

Dr. J. M. McCully, probably one of the county's best known citizens, died at the Shelbina Hospital last Thursday morning, June 16th, after an illness of several weeks duration. While his health had not been good for several years, he had continued to take an active part in his work until he was taken seriously ill a few weeks ago.

He was the son of William and Frances (Yates) McCully and was born in a log cabin home on a farm northwest of Huntsville, Missouri, in Randolph county, where his grandfather had settled the year that Missouri became a state.

William McCully, father of Dr. McCully, came to Shelby county in 1860, just prior to the Civil War, and settled on a farm near Cherry Box. Dr. McCully was born May 8th, 1851 and was nine years old when he came to Shelby with his parents.

He attended the rural school in the vicinity of his home and later attended the Mount Pleasant College at Huntsville. Following his graduation there in 1870, he entered the medical department of Washington University in St. Louis and in 1873 he received his degree as Doctor of Medicine and began the practice of his profession at Sue City in Macon county.

In 1882, Dr. McCully removed to Shelbina. Here he took a keen interest in the building up of the town, especially its schools. For two years he was a member of the city council there and for twelve years, a member of the Board of Education. Under his presidency, the board established a high school in Shelbina, the first high school north of the Missouri river.

For several years, he was also the editor and owner of the Shelbina Torchlight and he made it one of the leading papers of the county during his ownership.

In 1905, the Doctor came to Clarence and engaged in the practice of medicine in this section. He also engaged in business here and became one of the leading business men of the city. He promoted the first telephone line north and south across the west part of Shelby county, and was always active in any sort of civic progress.

Possibly there has never been a citizen of our county who has given so liberally to charity and who has assisted those deserving of financial help. All of this work was done quietly and few knew of the amounts of money spent by Dr. McCully in help of this kind.

He was a large landowner in the county and was interested in agricultural advancement of all sorts.

In 1873, he married Alice Rawlings at Shelbyville, Missouri. Two of their three children survive him, the eldest son having died at the age of two years. The surviving children are Aubrey McCully, of Shelbina, and Mrs. Glessner Worthing, of Hannibal.

He was married second to Mrs. James Walker, who survives his passing.

A short funeral service was held at the grave in Maplewood cemetery Saturday afternoon and was conducted by Rev. R. A. Mitchell. Interment was in the family lot there.