

ENDED LIFE - Did Jasper Case, Aged Resident of St. Marys Township, Adams County, Indiana - BY DROWNING HIMSELF - In Abandoned Stone Quarry in Rear of Willshire Hotel - Too Much Worry

Worry over the health of himself and wife so preyed upon the mind of Jasper Case, well known farmer living about three miles west of Willshire, that he committed suicide Wednesday forenoon at about ten o'clock by drowning himself in the old abandoned stone quarry in the rear of the Willshire hotel. He had come to town in the morning with his son, Lue, to attend to some business matters, and while here Mr. Case told his son that he was going to drown himself, but nothing was thought of it however, and soon the son went into a store to call up some parties and left his father to wait for him. Soon after he came out and could not find his father, and at once started a search for him. He tracked him to the old stone quarry where he was discovered, the back of head and back sticking out of the water. J. S. Buchanan had accompanied the son down to the quarry and together they pulled him from the icy water, in which he had been not to exceed ten minutes. He was taken into the blacksmith shop and some water worked out of him. He was then taken to the undertaking establishment of S.S. Buchanan and the coroner notified. The body was held until he arrived.

The cause of the rash act is thought to be worry over the condition of his wife's health, his own health, and his land deal, which has been hanging fire for some time. He leaves a wife, five daughters and four sons. Two daughters are dead. Besides the immediate family he leaves three sisters: Mrs. M.L. Thatcher, of Van Wert; Mrs. Wm. Davis, of Dayton, and Mrs. J.L. Frisinger, of Ingersoll, Okla., besides a host of relatives and friends who sympathize with the family in their bereavement. As we go to press the funeral arrangements had not yet been made.

Brumback Library, Van Wert, Ohio - Obituary File -- Van Wert Daily Times, 17 Feb. 1910

WILLSHIRE CITIZEN COMMITTED SUICIDE - Jasper Case Ends All By Drowning Himself Under Ice In Quarry

The residents of the south part of the county were surprised and pained to learn of the untimely and self-inflicted end of one of their leading citizens, Wednesday morning, when Jasper Case, Sr., an aged and prosperous farmer residing three miles west of Willshire committed suicide by drowning himself at the stone quarry at Willshire.

Mr. Case and his wife have been in very poor health for a number of months and the fact that medical aid did not seem to benefit either and also that he had suffered recent losses in connection with real estate transactions pried upon his mind of the aged man to such an extent that the above fatal step was the final outcome.

The deceased was 68 years of age and has been a resident of the county for a long period of time, during which he has accumulated considerable of this world's goods. He came in to the town of Willshire early in the day, Wednesday in company with one of his sons and during the time the son was occupied attending to some matters of business the aged man went to the quarry, broke the thin coating of ice upon the surface of the water and deliberately crawled beneath the ice. A wife and ten children remain to mourn their loss.

Coroner Richison left for Willshire Wednesday evening to make an official investigation of the case. No funeral arrangements have been announced.

Decatur Democrat, Adams Co, IN; Thursday, Feb. 17, 1910, Vol. 53, #7

COMMITTED SUICIDE - Jasper Case, Well Known Farmer of St. Marys Township - Drowned Himself In A Stone Quarry - At Willshire, Ohio, This Morning, Worried Over Wife's Ill Health

His mind affected because of worrying over the health of his wife and over a suit which he had in court here, Jasper Case, Sr., of St. Marys township, and one of the best known men of this part of the county, committed suicide at Willshire at 10 o'clock Wednesday, when he leaped into the old Willshire stone quarry and drowned. He went to Willshire presumably to do some trading and after talking to a few friends, to one of whom at least he confided the fact that he was going to drown himself, but who never thought that there was anything the matter with him, he walked down to the quarry and threw himself in. There was but about three feet of water in the quarry and the unfortunate man must have forced himself to remain under water until death came. Ten minutes later he was found by friends who feared something might be wrong and who raced to the quarry, and there saw a part of his body exposed. He was taken out at once and the remains conveyed to the undertaking rooms, and later will be taken home. He was about sixty five years old and is survived by the wife and several children. Mr. Case was well known in Decatur and usually did his trading here. His son accompanied him to Willshire this morning.

The Willshire Herald, , Van Wert, Ohio; Thursday, Feb. 24, 1910, Vol. 15, #5

O B I T U A R Y

William Jasper Case was born near Willshire, Ohio, May 30, 1843, and died in Willshire, February 16, 1910; aged sixty six years, eight months and sixteen days.

In 1861, when our country was in great danger and a call was made for brave men to sacrifice home, family and even their lives to maintain this noble country of ours, Mr. Case was one that answered that call and was one of the brave men of the 46th Ohio regiment, and remained with this regiment till the close of the war.

In the year 1871, he was united in marriage to Miss Martha Ellen Gause. To this union were born thirteen children, of which four have preceded him in death. He leaves to mourn their loss an afflicted wife, four sons and five daughters, Pheobe Belle Ains- worth, Maggie May Garwood, Nettie Spangler, Bertha Alice Jack, and Lulu Riff, Lou, Earl, Frank and Robert William, also three sisters, Mrs. Frisinger, of Oklahoma, Mrs. Thatcher, of Van Wert, and Mrs. Davis, of Dayton; twenty grandchildren and many friends.

About thirty five years ago he was converted and joined the U.B. church, of which he was a faithful member till the time of his death. The funeral services were held at Steele M.E. church Friday, Feb. 18, at 1:30 p.m., conducted by Horace Kohn, and kindly assisted by the Rev. G.W. Houseman, of

Tyro, Ohio. A very large concourse of sympathetic friends and neighbors were present to share sympathy with the greatly bereaved. Interment was made in the Tricker cemetery.

From Van Wert Connection, Van Wert, Ohio

Record of Inquests Held by Coroners and Justices of the Peace in Van Wert County, Ohio
March 1, 1910; William Jasper Case; white male; native born; Cause of death: drowning, suicidal intent; Exam by R. R. Richison