A STORY OF THE COLLINS MURDER CASE.

Ex-Chief of Police John M. Wilkerson advocates suicide theory.

the family. Testimony of John Collins, the Western Union Telegraph company at 615 Van Buren street.

Frances Babcock and others. May 18—Second day of inquest. Testi- Jess Harper and Johnson Jordan. of Mrs. J. S. Collins, Grace Collins, L. F. Collins (imposter son) and others. murdered by an unknown hand. May 19-D. W. Nellis appointed administrator of Collins estate.

Preferred Accident Insurance company, takes depositions of John Collins, Mrs. Collins and others.

June 9-John Collins, Johnson Jordan. Jesse Harper and Crook Wright arrested by Detectives Harbaugh, Kin-ney and Sheriff Cook, and their depositions taken at the county jail. John Collins' watch found at Newton in possession of Johnson Jordan. June 10-John Collins' diamond and revolver found in the possession of Law-

rence pawnbrokers, put there by Jess Har-

June 11-Testimony of Frances Babcock as given to Detective Del Harbaugh made June 13-Mrs. Collins and Grace Collins visit John Collins in county jail for the first time. Preliminary hearing set for June 20. Chas. F. Hayden of Holton retained as attorney by defense. June 14-Judge Norton of Lawrence, counsel for Frances Babcock, says Miss Babcock will make damaging statements about John Collins when placed on the

June 16 .- Constable Ross goes to Lawrence to serve subpoenas and finds Miss Babcock missing. June 18-Thirteen Topeka people subpoenaed for the preliminary nearing. June 20-Preliminary hearing begins. Attorneys Jetmore and Safford for state; Godard and Hayden for defense.

witness stand.

June 21-Second day of preliminary. Joe Smothers produces letter from John Col-June 22-Third day of preliminary hear-Sheriff Cook produces written statement from John Collins stating that he lost his watch June 10. June 23-Fourth day of hearing. John

Collins bound over for trial in the district Introduction into evidence of the famous Johnson Jordan letter. June 24-Bond for John Collins refused. June 25-Bond of \$500 each set for Johnson Jordan and Jess Harper. Jordan and Harper visit Smoky Row in charge of a deputy constable, and all three get drunk June 27.-John Collins for the first time Detective Harbaugh leaves Topeka.

June 28-Johnson Jordan secures bond and is released from jail. June 29-Jess Harper secures bond and goes free. July. July 5-D. W. Nellis, administrator

July 12-"Big 400" raided by the police

and Crook Wright arrested.



Sheriff of Shawnee County. due and unpaid. dismissing John Collins from membership. July 28-Detective Harbaugh visits To-

August.

August 1-County Attorney Jetmore expresses the opinion that Judge Hazen will refuse a change of venue. August 8-Detective Harbaugh visits Topeka and says that he has had a disagreement with Sheriff Cook. August 10-Kate P. Malcomb sues the Collins estate in the district court for \$150. August 16-Johnson Jordan, who has been missing for some time turns up in Newton. August 24-Transcript of evidence from the justice court filed with the clerk of the

September.

September 1-Judge Z. T. Hazen in an interview, says that the Collins case will be set for hearing in the latter part of November, and that a strong showing will have to be made to secure a change of

Sept. 7-County Attorney Jermore files the information against John Collins, and a list of 66 witnesses, 41 of whom have never testified in the case. Sept. 10-Attorney Hayden comes to Topeka to assist in collecting affidavits for change of venue. Sept. 14-Lot 157 Quincy street, formerly

the property of J. S. Collins, sold at sher- COUNTY ATTORNEY A. P. JETMORE, stairs. iff's sale to the Massachusetts Mutual Life For the State Insurance company for \$2,990. Sept. 15 .- Attorney Godard admits that

Sept. 26-Attorneys meet with Judge Hazen to discuss date for the trial. Nov. thought to be satisfactory.



for a change of venue. October.

for trial on Nov. 28.

November.

Nov. 2-Johnson Jordan released from jail on condition he leave Newton.

m. Chief of Police Steele attempts to ar- John and Grace Collins sue the Preferred and the result of this infatuation is After Mr. and Mrs. Collins had gone, amined without finding either revolver. John Collins. L. F. Collins of North Accident Insurance company for \$5,000 in- claimed to be the commission of the mur- John sat down and played a few minutes The canvas guncase which had contain-Nov. 21-John Collins brought before the der. district court while the state secures per-May 17—First day of inquest. A. P. Jet- mission to indorse 28 additional witnesses more represents state and A. A. Godard on the information. Orders granted on

> James S. Collins, a prominent citizen of Topeka, was mysteriously murdered in his first floor. At the east it opens into the own home at 5 o'clock on the morning parlor by wide sliding doors. On the

CHRONOLOGY OF THE COLLINS | set at \$2,000. Prosecution claims it is a All the Important Incidents From the Assassination of J. S. Collins to the Final Arrangements for the Trial Which Begins Monday.

front of the hall. Coming in, he stopped | found.

merless weapon. On the highest of the

shelves was a box containing cartridges,

12 gauge, loaded with E. C. smokeless

May 15—Grant Meade arrives in Topeka. ial venire of fifty jurymen. Defense calls of one of the leading Lawrence families, with us."

May 16—Funeral of J. S. Collins at 4 p. as witnesses the attorneys for the state.

The Collins residence is a large house

Where J. S. Collins Lived.

The room occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Col- stairs. lins was at the south side of the building,



JOHN HENRY COLLINS.

from the effects of two terrible gunshot front hall. The parlor also opens into wounds inflicted with his own shotgun. this hall by double doors. On June 9, 1898, John Henry Collins, his The stairway leading upstairs is on the light, but it failed to work. son, was arrested, charged with the crime opposite or north side of the hall, a little of patricide.

Tomorrow, November 28, the trial of John Collins will begin in the district court

of this county. Never was a more cold-blooded atrocious crime committed in this city than the killing of J. S. Collins. As he peacefully slept in the fancied safety of his home, the plans of the assassin were laid, and James S. Collins never woke from that sleep except in the agonies of death. The whole city, state and nation read of the terrible crime, and for hundreds of miles around Topeka, where Mr. Collins was well known, it created a most profound sensation. The subsequent developments of the murder, climaxing in the arrest of John Collins, were followed with intense interest. The trial of John Collins on the charge of murder will be the greatest criminal trial ever held in the state, and a parallel for the historic murder trials of the nation. The Capital presents to its readers the following story of the Collins case:

The Collins Family.

James S. Collins was a leading real estate dealer of Topeka. He took up his residence here in 1869, moving here from estate for \$602.93 for monies alleged to be his fathers' home in Wyandotte county. He was born in Waterville, Jefferson July 18-Beta Theta Pi fraternity discuss county, New York. On coming to Topeka,



For the State.

it is the intention of the desense to apply Mr. Collins accepted a position as patrol- did not return home till late. Grace Col- Dr. Tefft's residence on his bicycle to asmarried, and had two children, John went. John Collins had come home from the telephone message. Henry Collins and Grace M. Collins. His Lawrence that afternoon and had told J. C. Pickens, a laboring man, was the Meade, his present wife, in 1883. She had one son, Grant Meade, at present a railway conductor.

Mr. Collins was a Mason in high standing, an Odd Fellow, and a member of the Masonic Immediate Relief society. He was nearly 48 years old at the time of his

Mrs. Helen A. Collins is a woman of strong personality, as her conduct during the trying scenes of the murder and John Collins' arrest give evidence. Her statements have indicated the most unfaltering trust in the innocence of John, and she has treated him with as much consideration as a mother could bestow upon I

her own child. She is 55 years of age. Grace Collins is one of the society girls !

Horton, Kan. He is a conductor on the Rock Island railway.

at his sister's door, bid her goodnight, and went into his room at the head of the

powder and No. 6 shot. The gun was always kept in a canvas gun case, and was never left loaded. The closet door was not locked. The bed in Mr. and Mrs. Collins' room stood with its head to the north side of the room. Mr. Collins slept on the east side of the bed. There was a narrow space between the east wall of the room and the bed, and a space of about ten feet between the bed and the doors leading into the parlor. The doors leading into the room are supposed to have been locked the night before the murder. The Murder. Whoever committed the murder entered

the closet and loaded the gun with two shells from the box on the shelf. Mrs. Collins partially awoke at 5 o'clock, and remembers of hearing the clock strike five. She immediately dropped asleep

Within ten minutes from that time, the murderer stepped to the foot of the bed, where Mr. and Mrs. Collins lay, with the shot gun in his hand. When not more than a yard from the foot of the bed he fired the first shot, which tore through the bed clothes and inflicted a ghastly wound in the left side of Mr. Collins' abdomen, ranging upward and back. Indications are that Mr. Collins started up in bed just as the murderer fired again, the second shot striking him between the shoulder and neck on the left side, breaking the clavicle bone.

The murderer dashed out of the room through the parlor, the doors having been opened. He carried the gun in his left hand. As he passed out of the parlor into the hall he dropped the gun out of his left hand onto a rug' in the hall and went directly upstairs. These facts are well established by circumstantial evidence. Mrs. Collins sprang out of bed. She had been slightly wounded in the back by stray shots. She tried to turn on the electric

Mr. Collins lay groaning on the bed. He moaned to his wife: "Helen, I'm shot in the back!"

"Are you badly hurt?" exclaimed Mrs. Collins, as she hurried to her husband's "Yes, I'm hurt bad; get the camphor and rub it on my back," said the wounded

The moment Mrs. Collins reached the side of the bed she discovered the nature of his wounds and saw the blood pouring out of his body. She unlocked the door leading from the room into the front hall and called loudly to John and Grace for help. She saw the gun lying on the rug

in the hall.

John and Grace came downstairs together. Both came without dressing. As they reached the hall Mrs. Collins said: "There is the gun that killed your The son, daughter and wife entered the

room where Mr. Collins lay. Then Grace Collins rushed across the street to the residence of Edwin Lange, 620 Van Buren street, a friend of the Judge of Shawnee County District Court. family. John Collins went upstairs and partially dressed. He then followed his west of the parlor doors. Upstairs a long sister across the street to Mr. Lange's. hall extends east and west the full length Mr. Lange telephoned for Dr. H. K. Tefft. of the building. At the front of the hall John and Grace Collins returned home. a door opens out upon a small portico.



DELL HARBAUGH, Detective who had charge of the case.

tainment on the evening of May 12. They Mr. Lange dressed and hurried toward

first person not a member of the family to come to the Collins house. He was attracted by the cries for help of Mrs. Collins while Grace was at Mr. Lange's. He went into the house, saw the gun on the floor, and saw the murdered man lying on the bed. He summoned A. W. Knowles, who lives on the corner of Fifth and Van Buren.

Dr. Tefft came within ten minutes, and meantime several other neighbors had arrived, and the police had been notified. Sergeant Donovan, Sheriff Cook, and Policemen Jenkins, Heartburg and Fieger arrived at the house at about 5:30 o'clock. A reporter for the Capital arrived at the same time, and at 8 o'clock the Capital printed the first news of the terrible af-

Dr. Tefft found that Mr. Collins had died almost instantly from the effects of his wounds. He was dead within a few minutes after the shots were fired.

As soon as the police arrived, they made a search of the house. Every room was examined, also the basement. The search was hastily made, however. There is a pos-

bed where Mr. and Mrs. Collins slept, were dow or over the front portico.

Nev. 18-Johnson Jordan found in Hutch- Frances Babcock, the beautiful daugh- 'Now, John, don't go away on that early both missing. Later in the morning the closet being overhauled and the beds ex- the step-son of J. S. Collins. Geo. Reames was the guilty person. on the piano. He then went upstairs, and ed Mr. Collins' shot gun was also missing.

Burglar or Enemy-Which?

Opening at the west side of Mr. and Mrs. | that a burglar had done the terrible deed. | Meade was in Panhandle, Texas when the field's office at the court house, and then Collins' room is a large closet, with hooks It was shown that a burglar might have murder was committed, and did not arrive proceeded in a body to the Collins' rest. for clothing and shelves along one side. | concealed himself in the closet opening off in the city till two days after. In one corner of this closet J. S. Collins of the bedroom by hiding behind the cloth- It was claimed by some from the very carefully inspected. The nature and post-

inson. Judge Hazen completes the spector ter of Mrs. M. G. Babcock, the head train. Stay over and spend the day house was very thoroughly searched, every colored hostler, and Grant Meade, told Mrs. Collins that he believed John

was at home west of town on the night of smoked a cigar on the little portico at the and up to the present time has not been

was mortgaged and his creditors were

In at least two cases he had promised

to make payments on claims Friday morn-

ing. This was the morning of his death.

The motive for suicide is easy to estab-

lish. But how the deed was done is harder

to understand. Ex-Chief of Police John

M. Wilkerson, who has from the first been

an exponent of the suicide theory, says

that Mr. Colins discharged the gun with

his toes, and that Mrs. Collins carried the

giving the impression that he had been

murdered in order that insurance might

The physicians who examined Mr. Col-

lins' body state that it is impossible for

the wounds to have been self inflicted. It

is also pretty well established that his

John Collins Suspected.

satisfactory in important features. Hardly

had they been proposed before they were

ed that John Collins, the son, might have

any trouble with his father. On the con-

laid aside, and it was unwillingly suggest-

All these theories and surmises were un-

be collected. This Mrs. Collins denies.

feet were covered by the bed clothes.

gun out into the hall for the purpose of

pressing him for pay.



have removed the two revolvers from the on account of financial troubles. bed. He then feared to come out of the An investigation of his financial affairs closet or else fell asleep or for some other revealed the fact that he was heavily in reason did not come out till nearly day- debt and had few resources. His property



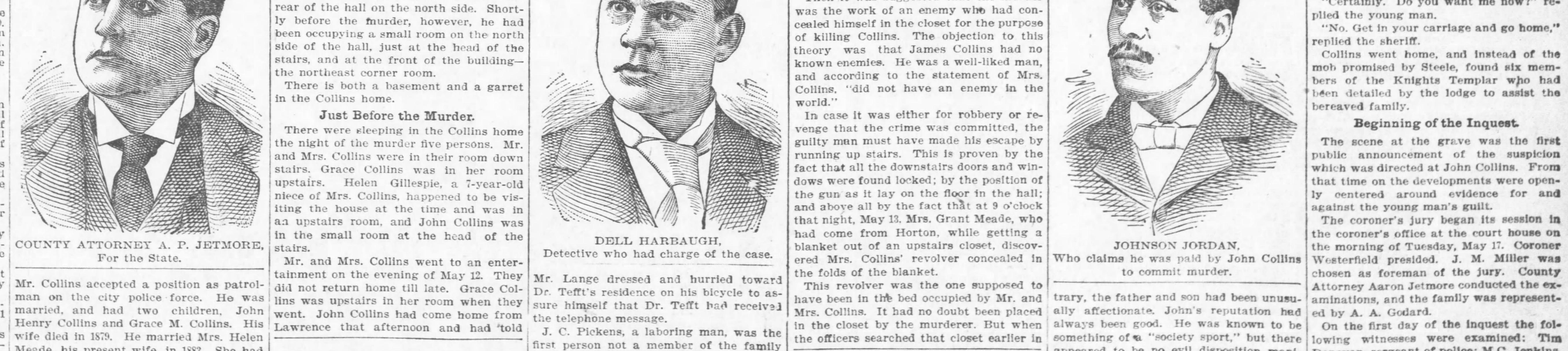
CHARLES HAYDEN, OF HOLTON, Attorney for John Collins.

light. He had prepared the shot gun and as he was passing through the room, or while trying to unlock the doors to get out, awoke Mr. Collins, whom he shot in self defense.

This theory was rendered improbable by the fact that nothing whatever was taken from the house, although there was considerable jewelry in the room, and some money in Mr. Collins' trousers. Then it was suggested that the murder

was the work of an enemy who had concealed himself in the closet for the purpose of killing Collins. The objection to this theory was that James Collins had no known enemies. He was a well-liked man, and according to the statement of Mrs. Collins, "did not have an enemy in the In case it was either for robbery or re-

venge that the crime was committed, the guilty man must have made his escape by running up stairs. This is proven by the fact that all the downstairs doors and windows were found locked; by the position of the gun as it lay on the floor in the hall; and above all by the fact that at 9 o'clock that night, May 13, Mrs. Grant Meade, who had come from Horton, while getting a blanket out of an upstairs closet, discovthe folds of the blanket. This revolver was the one supposed to



done the deed.

appeared to be no evil disposition mani- Donovan, sergeant of police; M.C. Jenkins, fested in his actions.

Collins had his life insured for \$28,000, J. F. Mills of the Western Union Tele-Half of this was in favor of Mrs. Collins graph company; Edwin Lange and A. W. and half in favor of the children. In case Knowles, neighbors of the Collins family; of his death, John Collins would receive W. M. Lyons, reporter; Frances Babcock about \$7,000. This was the only motive of Lawrence, and John Henry Collins. which could be discovered for the crime at

a fast life at Lawrence, and had needed more money than his father would give important testimony of the first day's

Mr. Collins' life insurance policies were as follows: Fidelity and Casualty\$ 5,000 National Union 5.30 of the death of his father. The telegrams Covenant Mutual 2 000

Sheriff Decides to Wait.

mitted the unnatural crime was so revolt- and Frances Babcock. sibility of important oversights having the day, they had found nothing of the re- ing that there was no idea among most of Miss Babcock testified that when the The first important discovery was that Another argument against either theory much more evidence than a mere sus. It read, "Father is dead. Tell nothing."

the verdict of the coroner's jury before groes, and that she supposed the "Tell

Mrs. Collins' theory is that the murderer lins. Meantime he continued to conduct ran up stairs, concealed himself in the investigations as to John Collins' life in closet where the revolver was found, left Lawrence, and possible motives for the the revolver there to deceive the officers, crime. Another method was followed by and made his escape through the rear hall Chief of Police Henry M. Steele, who was in office at that time. Mr. Steele called Two names which were mentioned upon Governor Leedy the day after the s possibly connected with the af- murder and got him to offer a reward for fair were Geo. Reams, the old the arrest of J. S. Collins' murderer. He

On Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Corothe murder. He is an old man, physically ner J. M. Westerfield summoned a jury to unable to do the deed in the way it was determine the cause of the death of J. S. Collins. The jury was composed of the Grant Meade is said to have had a dis- following known citizens: John W. Garagreement with J. S. Collins over money diner, J. T. Snyder, Lee Carter, J. M. Milmatters. There appeared to be a possible ler, J. H. Evans and F. M. Matthews. The The first theory suggested itself was motive for murder in this. But Grant jury was organized at Coroner Westerdence. There the body of Mr. Collins was kept his shotgun, a fine L. C. Smith ham- ing which hung on the hooks. He might first that James S. Collins killed himself tion of the wounds was noted. The jury looked through the house from top to bottom, and considered the possible means of exit. It was then decided to adjourn furthen hearing until Tuesday, May 17.

> Funeral of James S. Collins. The funeral of the murdered man was held Monday, May 16, at 4 o'clock p. m., at

> the family residence. It was in charge of the Knights Templar, Topeka Commandery No. 5, of which Mr. Collins was during his life a leading member. The clergy of the Episcopal church officiated.

> Music was rendered by a male quartet composed of H. L. Shirer, Harry Overholt, W. H. Shaver and James Moore. The casket was covered with flowers and floral designs sent by friends and by the various lodges of which Mr. Collins was a member. The Beta Theta Pi fraternity of the State University, of which John Collins was a

> member, sent a beautiful floral design. A large funeral cortege escorted the remains to Topeka cemetery. The pall bearers were H. F. Morris, C. J. Webb, W. T. Burrell, W. M. Quinon, W. C. Chaffee, D. W. Nellis and J. D. Norton.

Scene at the Grave.

Just after the remains of J. S. Collins had been lowered into the grave, an attempt was made by ex-Chief of Police Steele to arrest John Collins.

It was an act which, in view of the circumstances, was rightly denounced as atrocious.

Steele admitted later that he expected by this act to be able to claim at least a portion of the reward offered by Governor Leedy at his suggestion for the arrest of the murderer. He was prevented in the accomplishment of his object by the firm action of Sheriff Cook.

As John Collins was going toward the carriage with his mother and sister to return home from the cemetery Steele started toward him for the purpose of placing him under arrest. He was stopped by some of Collins' friends who had been warned of his intention. John Collins was called aside and Steele said to him that he proposed to arrest him at



A. A. GODARD, OF TOPEKA.

But there appeared to be no motive for once. "The Journal has come out this the crime. John Collins had never had evening," said Steele, "with a story of your arrest. When you get home there'll be a mob of 1,500 there waiting for you. You had better came with me for your own safety."

Attorney for John Collins.

Sheriff Cook stepped up to John Collins and whispered to him: "Can I find you at home if I want you,

"Certainly. Do you want me now?" replied the young man. "No. Get in your carriage and go home," replied the sheriff.

Collins went home, and instead of the mob promised by Steele, found six members of the Knights Templar who had been detailed by the lodge to assist the bereaved family.

Beginning of the Inquest.

The scene at the grave was the first public announcement of the suspicion which was directed at John Collins. From that time on the developments were openly centered around evidence for and against the young man's guilt. The coroner's jury began its session in

the coroner's office at the court house on the morning of Tuesday, May 17. Coroner chosen as foreman of the jury. County Attorney Aaron Jetmore conducted the ex-

patrolman; Porter S. Cook, sheriff; H. K. It was revealed, however, that James S. Tefft, physician; H. J. Bevelle and Mrs.

Miss Babcock's Testimony. Frances Adelaide Babcock, the beautiful It was hinted that John had been leading Lawrence girl with whom John Collins was desperately in love, gave the most

hearing. It appears that John Collins, on the morning of the murder, wrote a number of telegrams to friends and relatives telling Total\$28,000 graph office by Edwin Lange. The messages were to Grant Meade, Mrs. M. J. Frisbey, Howard Leonard, Horace Meade. The suspicion that John Collins had com- Kate Barton, J. Collins, Mattie M. Beard

the officials of arresting the son without message was delivered in Lawrence to her She stated that John Collins had told her It was decided by Sheriff Cook to await | that his father had been shadowed by Ne-

taking any action in regard to John Col- nothing" referred to this confidential infor-



that the defense has decided not to apply

Who introduced Collins to Jordan.

of Topeka. She was a student at the Topeka High school, and was to have graduated in June, 1898. Her confidence in her brother's innocence is implicit. Grant Meade, Mrs. Collins' son, is a man 30 years of age, is married, and lives at

John Collins was born March 31, 1877. The first negro approached by Collins. He is well known in Topeka society circles. He began to attend school at the his father and mother that he was not Kansas State university, Lawrence, three feeling well. He went to see the family years ago. He joined the Beta Theta Pi physician, Dr. L. Y. Grubbs, but Dr. fraternity, and was a leader in University Grubbs was not in. Oct. 1-Judge Hazen sets the Collins case society. While at Lawrence he made his John intended to return to Lawrence on Oct. 18-Johnson Jordan arrested at home at the Beta Chapter house, the early morning train. Just before going Newton charged with gambling. Bond He became greatly enamored of Miss away his father said to him:



Z. T. HAZEN.

At the other end is a window which opens

upon the roof of a one-story summer

Grace Collins' was at the front of the

hall on the south side. John Collins ap-

pears to have had two rooms. The room

which he usually occupied was near the

rear of the hall on the north side. Short-

ly before the murder, however, he had

been occupying a small room on the north

side of the hall, just at the head of the

stairs, and at the front of the building-

There is both a basement and a garret

Just Before the Murder.

There were sleeping in the Collins home

the night of the murder five persons. Mr.

and Mrs. Collins were in their room down

stairs. Grace Collins was in her room

upstairs. Helen Gillespie, a 7-year-old

niece of Mrs. Collins, happened to be vis-

iting the house at the time and was in

an upstairs room, and John Collins was

in the small room at the head of the

Mr. and Mrs. Collins went to an enter-

the northeast corner room.

in the Collins home.

JOSEPH SMOTHERS, OF LAWRENCE.

Police Investigations.

lins and one to Mr. Collins, which were or slightest indication that anyone had kept constantly under the pillows of the left the house, either by the rear hall win-

CROOK WRIGHT, OF TOPEKA, Proprietor of the Big 400 Club.

two revolvers, one belonging to Mrs. Col- is the fact that there was no trace, track | picion,

mation At first the message was telephoned to her residence, and she understood it to be "Tell the boys." She therefore wrote a note to John Collins' fraternity brothers, informing them that John Collins' father was dead.

The original telegram filed at the Topeka office was shown to her and she identified it as being John Collins' handwriting.

Telegraph Clerk Testifies. Mrs. J. F. Mills, the desk clerk at the Topeka telegraph office, testified that after Mr. Lange had filed the messages which John Collins wrote and had left the office. a young man came into the office and asked for the message addressed to Frances Babcock.

She thought that the young man was John Collins, and as the message had at that time had not been placed on the wires gave him the message, which read "Father is dead." He took it and added the words, "Tell nothing." In this form it was cent to Miss Babcock.

Mrs. Mills stated that she believed that the young man was John Collins but would not swear positively that it was.

Collins Declines to Answer.

When John Collins was placed on the stand, he was asked what he meant by the mysterious "Tell nothing" telegram. "It pertains to a certain thing I told Miss Babcock. Further than that I refuse to state," said Collins.

"Is it in regard to the Negroes who were shadowing your father?" was asked by the county attorney.

"Yes sir," was the reply.

Later on, when the witness expressed a desire to tell everything at the proper time Mr. Jetmore said:

"Well then, I wish you would explain what the words "Tell nothing' mean." "I want Miss Babcock to tell that first," said Collins.

"Will you not make some sort of an explanation now?" "No sir. I want some time to think this

Collins testified that he had a number of unpaid debts in Lawrence. He said he owed \$50 to a bank, a livery bill of \$20; for cigars \$4, for books \$4, for confectionery \$4, besides several loans of small amounts from his fraternity brothers.

In answer to questions, he stated that his father had frequently spoken of having The work done by Detectives Harbaugh revolvers missing from the bed where Mr. ing the doubtful statements of the two 'personal.' Burn this letter at once as seen a colored man following him and had and Kinney and Sheriff Cook was of the and Mrs. Collins slept. expressed the opinion several times that most secret nature. It was not even The records of the telegraph office provhe "didn't like the looks" of several colored known that active work was in progress. ed that the telegrams which the negroes tock's court went to Lawrence to sub- AGAIN. I SHALL EXPECT TO HEAR men he passed on the streets.

The testimony of the other witnesses was in the main unproductive of new fealeast, as to the facts.

Second Day of Inquest.

At 8:30 on the morning of May 18, the negroes, charged with complicity. time, after being in private consultation brought to the county jail within returned:

"We find that J. S. Collins came to his and the other two in Topeka. death by gun shot wounds inflicted by some person unknown to this jury."

Immediately upon the return of this verdict, County Attorney Jetmore annound unless more evidence developed against John Collins, no warrant would be issued for his arrest.

The witnesses examined during the day were H. M. Steele, chief of police at that time; J. H. Leonard, Reuben Knowles and John Waters, friends of the family; Helen Gillespie, the little neice of Mrs. Collins: Mrs. Helen A. Collins and Miss Grace M. Collins, wife and daughter respectively of for him. -the murdered man.

Grace Collins as Witness.

Collins, sister of John Collins.

got out of bed on the morning of the mur- come, and arrived early that evening. der: and after she had been awakened by Collins met Harper in the park that afterthe two shots which killed her father, she | noon and gave him his diamond stud. Colheard some one rush down the hall in the lins conferred with Jordan that night direction of the rear hall window.

with a dazed idea of having heard an ex- dan demanded \$75 for the job. plosion. Then I heard a groan. Next I Collins borrowed \$50 from Watkins' heard John jump out of bed. Then I heard bank, Lawrence, the next morning (April some one rush down the hall. I ran out of [27) and paid it to Jess Harper for Jordan. came out of his room. I saw no one but The same day at noon Jordan returned him in the hall."

only witness who had even heard the es- Alma, Kan., on April 29, and could not be chain, in another pocket, was a small butcape of the murderer.

at the morning session and made some and found a special delivery letter at Big fore, but I do not remember how long. I cross examination of the defense. very remarkable statements. He said that 400 hall for him from Collins, urging him told Miss Babcock shortly afterwards of during the life time of Mr. Collins, he and to do as he agreed. Jordan tore this letter my having lost it. I missed it one even- in Kansas City on May 9, for what pur-Mr. Collins had some conversation in re- up. Jordan met Collins at the Big 400 ing which I was dressing to make a call. pose it is not known. Collins expressed the fear that John was at 7:30 p. m., May 4. Collins suggested a picion. Mr. Steele said he did go to Law- Crook Wright, proprietor of the Big 400, in the statements of Jordan, Harper, rence on this mission.

When placed under cross examination. with the jury. His testimony weakened jewelry store, Topeka. whatever evidence that had been introduc- | Collins came to Topeka and met Jordan ed which reflected on John Collins.

of great impressiveness. The rumor had night (May 8). emphasis:

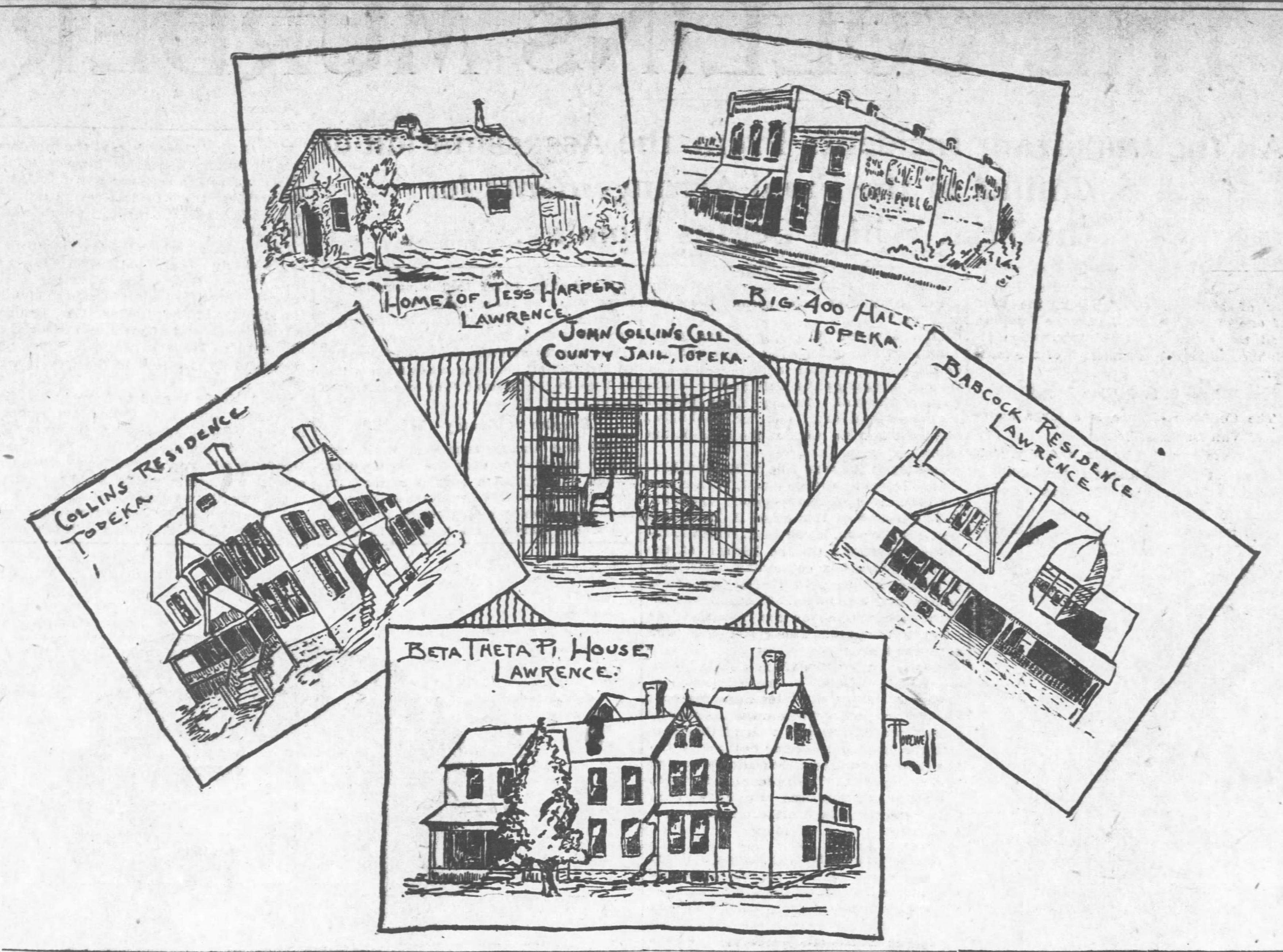
shot Mr. Collins."

siveness of a vow to Heaven, said:

who fired that shot. I wish I did." jury were attended by large crowds it there till Jordan was arrested (June 9). was the longest inquest in the history of the county.

Detectives at Work.

long agency of St. Louis to try and dis- all put in jail. agent here to investigate the case. This ton. into his confidence.



Arrest of John Collins.

tures. L. F. Collins, a North Topeka man than one month after the murder, the two is alleged to have sent to Jordan were ac- for the preliminary was lost. who had set up the claim of being a son of detectives, the sheriff and his deputies tually delivered. James S. Collins by a former marriage, sprung a tremendous sensation by the arwas placed on the stand and showed by his rest of John Henry Collins, Johnson Joranswers that he was mislead to say the dan, Jess Harper and Ed. (Crook) Wright. John Collins was charged with the mur-

jury resumed its sitting and was in session | The arrests were so cleverly timed and till six o'clock in the evening. At that executed that all four prisoners were that he was heavily in debt at Lawrence; for five minutes the following verdict was hours of each other, although Jordan was arrested in Newton, Harper in Lawrence

An Alleged Conspiracy.

is claimed that John Collins became did. determined to kill his father to obtain his insurance money in order that he might be able to prosecute his suit with Miss Babcock, who was wealthy. This is the alleged conspiracy:

Collins decided to hire some one to do the deed. He first approacherd Smothers, a Lawrence negro of good lerutation (April 25.) He asked Smothers if Jess Harper would do a job of dirty werk

Collins went to Harper's home early the next morning (April 26) and told him he wanted a dirty job done in Topeka. Harper refused to do the job, but agreed to She testified positively that before she Lawrence. Jordan replied that he would Harper's home, and for the first time ex-She said: "When I first awoke, it was plained that he wanted a man killed. Jor-

the room, and ram right into John as he Harper and Jordan divided the money.

Coming as it did at the end of the hear- Jordan delayed carrying out his agree- after the cutting scrape. After that I ing, and being told with straightforward ment. On May 1 Collins sent Harper to was on the avenue most of the time, and truthfulness, it was a very impressive bit Topeka to see why Jordan was neglecting in the crowd around the jail the rest of testimony. It was the testimony of the to do as he agreed. Jordan had gone to of the time. On the other end of the in regard to his watch and diamond.

Ex-Chief of Police H. M. Steele testified | Jordan returned from Alma on May 2 | gard to John's conduct at Lawrence. Mr. hall, First and Kansas avenue, Topeka, leading a fast life, and asked Mr. Steele dynamite bomb. Jordan wanted \$50 more to go to Lawrence and conduct a quiet to get material for the bomb. Collins gave investigation as to the truth of this sus- him his gold watch and chain to pawn. saw this transaction.

Steele became greatly confused in dates, special delivery letter from Collins at Big names, places and everything connected 400 hall. On the same day Edith Bivens, with his testimony. He repeatedly contra- Jordan's so-called wife, pawned Collins' dicted himself and left a bad impression watch chain for \$2.50 at C. H. Morrison's

Mrs. Collins testimony was valuable as said that the bombshell was in North To- known as "sporting." He is a professional "I ask that you make me an explanation confirmatory. One incident, however, was peka. Collins returned to Lawrence that

been persistently circulated that Mrs. Col- May 10, Dewey day, Collins again visited lins was fully cognizant of the identity of Jordan at the Madison street house and son in a family of five. His home is a It has placed me in an exceedlingly the murderer of her husband. County At Big 400 hall at night. Jordan said the bomb small white-washed him on a first be examined. There are eighteen of self content to emulate the grub and adtorney Jetmore said to her with profound had been taken to the police station with street. Lawrence. One of his brothers is my affairs on the supposition that you the things belonging to the man who had a pugilist; another is in Cuba with the would keep your promise at any risk. "Mrs. Collins, tell this jury, honestly, been keeping it, who had been arrested Twenty-third Kansas. Jess is a large, Write me at once fully as to what is the correctentiously, whether you know who for burglary. Collins put up \$2.50 to get muscular negro, and has a wide reputation matter and as to whether I may expect penitentiary for a long term. He was resit away from the police. Collins accused as a fighter. He has been frequently ar- that you will attend to things for me to-Mrs. Collins slowly turned in her whair Jordan of bad faith, and a dispute ensued rested, usually on the charge of fighting. | night. and faced the jurymen. She raised her in which Collinstatew a revolver. Jordan Joe Smothers is a reputable Negro and "If you have been pinched, use every deputy himself had it "fixed" with the dewere together.

reached. All of the sessions of the cept for a short trip to Hutchinson, were with him.

More Discoveries.

all these facts when the arrests were place on July 11. The "Big 400" was the this. Be very careful not to get pinched, At the close of the inquest there was a made. Jordan was arrested in Newton on whole upstairs floor of a two-story brick as either failure or delay would be dis-Eudden "slump" in the interest which had the morning of June 9 by Detectives Har- building at First and Kansas avenue, To- astrous to both you and me now. beer taken in the Collins case. The of baugh, Kinney and Sheriff Cook. Harper peka. Wright was fined heavily for runficers felt that their work had failed. was picked up in Lawrence on the way ning the place, but is now pardoned out City, and if so, why things did not come probable line of defense. They have kept Chief Steele was angry and refused to back by Detective Harbaugh. Crook of jail. have anything to do with Sheriff Cook. Wright was arrested in Topeka by Deputy Were it not for the fact that the testi- pect something tonight without fail. Sheriff Cook had been unable to find any Sheriffs Williams and Hanna. John Col- mony of these witnesses is extensively corevidence which would justify an arrest. lins was arrested at D. W. Nellis' office roborated, it would be of little value. At this time the Masonic order, un- by Sheriff Cook, after his return from known to outsiders, engaged the services Newton with Jordan. Between 6 and 8 of Detective Del Harbaugh of the Fur o'clock in the afternoon, the men were

Suddenly, on the 9th day of June, less the special delivery letters which Collins parted for the seaside, and her testimony

The testimony of Mrs. Collins was to the effect that John had been in Topeka on May 4, May 10, and May 12. He was not 9 o'clock, June 20. The day was intensely seen by his family on May 8, when Jordan hot. claims he was in Topeka for one night. der of his father. The other three were It was discovered that John Collins had borrowed money aggregating over \$100; that he had promised to go to the seaside with Frances Babcock in the summer, and had boasted that he then would have as much money as anybody; that he had been seer making frequent visits to Jess Harper's house at the time Harper said

John Collins' Statement.

Cook which has been proven false. He police sergeant; Edwin Lange, neighbor of Joe Topeka. The pawn ticket at C. H. Morri- Moore of Lawrence. She had seen Collins was pawned on June 6. The statement was house, which is nearly opposite the ja made on June 6, three days before John residence. Collins' arrest, and was given to Sheriff Porter S. Cook. It is written in ink on the letter paper of the J. S. Collins Real Estate company. It is as follows:

"My gold watch was given to me on measure due to the testimony of Grace get a man who would. Harper telegraphed or about March 31, 1898. It had a mono-Johnson Jordan of Topeka to come to gram 'J. H. C.' on the outside and an inscription J. H. Collins, March 31, 1877-1898 on the inside. I think it had gold hands. I first missed my watch on the morning after the Dewey day parade, Turner Hall." when I was at the Santa Fe depot at Topeka. I thought I must have left it of the day. The other witnesses were J. at my room in Topeka, as I often left

other things. "The day that I came home I looked all around for it, but did not find it. The chain was attached to it and I had it in my trousers pocket. The last time I remember of looking at it was in the crowd in front of Stansfield's drug store shortly

"JOHN HENRY COLLINS.

"Dated Topeka, Monday, June 6, 1898." Value of the Evidence.

In estimating what confidence to place Smothers and Wright, it is necessary to ton, Alma, Emporia and Hutchinson. He with printing known to have been done at his house, 325 Madison street. Jordan makes his living by what is commonly by Collins. The letter was as follows: berles times on all sorts of charges.

pany. While in Lawrence he was a mem- I may receive the letter at once.

but not vicious. He ran the toughest Ne- ble chance.

Preliminary Hearing Set.

which had been given to Justice W. S. Mc- my address here from the young lady in The defense has not subpoensed its wit- ture of a farming scene, with the words. cover the guilty parties. The Preferred John Collins' watch and chain were Clintock's court, was set for June 20. It the office when the proprietor is not in. nesses. This it will not do till the state's "Farming in the West." agent was G. S. Hotchkiss of New York. Collins' diamond was in the possession which is a spacious hall with a gallery. him not to wait to meet me on the street, new witnesses. ested Detective J. J. Kinney of the Santa revolver which John Collins had given to Godard of Topeka, and the detective work delivery stamp. Use no names. Fe secret service in the case and icrk Harper to pawn for him was found in the for both state and defense was carried on "Write me fully as to what you have produced to impeach the witnesses for the fields, its modern machinery and its up-Sheriff Cook and one or two local officers possession of Hutson, another Lawrence vigorously. The state secured a vast done since I saw you and as to what your state. This will not be hard to do in the to-date farmers. money lender. It proved to be one of the amount of testimony of value in support- plans are for tonight. Mark the envelope case of some of the Negroes.

When Constable Ross of Justice McClin-

First Day of Preliminary. The court came to order at shortly after his statements.

When the doors of the court room were opened by Sheriff Cook a crowd of 500 persons was waiting for admittance. They charged through the doors with resistless impetus, and filled the court room to it entire capacity.

John Collins seemed to be undisturbed by the events since June 9. His face was calm and even cheerful. He sat through the day, laughing occasionally at the mistakes of the witnesses.

The witnesses were unproductive of new evidence of great importance. They were Collins also made a statement to Sheriff M. C. Jenkins, patrolman; Tim Donovan said that he lost his watch and chain on the Collins family; H. K. Tefft, physician; jail in a glorious state of intoxication. the night of Dewey day (May 10) while in and Miss Lizzie Moore, daughter of Sheriff son's jewelry store proves that the chain on several occasions go to the Harper

> Second Day of Preliminary. There was another immense crowd at Negroes. the trial on the second day. A letter was

produced written by John Collins to Joe Smothers. This letter was printed wit pencil on a sheet of note paper. It was handed to Miss Kittle Smothers about May 5 by John Collins. It was as follows: comes up. Will make it worth your while

This letter was the only new testimony C. Pickens, first man to reach Collins' house after the murder; Cornelius Carter, Lawrence negro; Kittie Smothers, who re- him, either to see or talk to him. ceived Collins' note; Joe Smothers; Mrs. Helen A. Collins; A. W. Knowles, a neighbor: and Webb Wilder, a student at K. U.

and member of Collins' fraternity. Third Day of Preliminary.

On this day Sheriff Cook introduced into evidence John Collins' written statement Jess Harper, the Lawrence negro, was lecting affidavits from citizens in different banker; Wm. Henderson, Topeka banker; the paths where he should go by those in on the witness stand half a day, and his parts of the county, they decided to Wm. Macferran, Topeka banker; Frank authority over him. "I missed my diamond stud sometime be- testimony was unshaken by the searching

> The witnesses were Jess Harper, Sheriff Cook, Grace Collins, sister of the defend-

ant; Henry M. Steele, ex-chief of police, and W. M. Lyon, reporter. Fourth Day of Preliminary.

The letter alleged to have been written On May 6, Jordan received another consider the character of these witnesses. to Johnson Jordan by special delivery on Johnson Jordan was born in Tennessee | May 6 by John Collins was introduced into about 25 years ago. He has lived in Kan- evidence. It was printed in the same sas about eighteen years. He has no fam- hand as Joe Smothers' note, and was enily and no settled place of residence. He closed in the envelope bearing the official

> scrap-shooter. He has been arrested num- at once either by letter, telegram or by Jess Harper is the third from the oldest keep your promise to me about last night.

right hand, and, with the solemn impres- agreed to come with Collins, presumably his family lives at 1234 Tennessee street, means to get out so that you may be at fense to arrest Jordan and send him to the to commit the murder, but deceived Col- Lawrence. Smothers is at present in St. my service tonight. Use a special de- penitentiary in order that his testimony "As God is my judge, I do not know lins. This was the last time that the two Joe working for the St. Joe Water com- livery stamp when you write me so that might be unavailable. This is denied by

The result of the inquest gave general On May 12, Jordan and Edith Bivens ber of the Arcade quartette which fre- "I was very much disappointed not to satisfaction. In view of the evidence pre. went to Emporia and stayed there eight quently sang at the Beta chapter house. hear anything last night. Tell me at once the attorneys for the state for a month, throughout the country. The Capital will sented, no other verdict could have been days. Then they went to Newton, and ex- In this way Collins became acquainted what is the matter. I shall expect that you attend to things tonight, rain or shine, Crook Wright is a genial Negro, shrewd without fail, as this will be the last possi-

off and let me know whether I may ex- absolutely secret all their plans. "I shall try you this once more tonight and Detective James Kesson have been

once and long delay, but I shall lose all fense. They manifest confidnce that Colconfidence in you if you fail me tonight. | lins will be acquitted, but refuse to state On June 13 the preliminary hearing, "You can upon some good excuse, get the ground of defense.

will do with yours. "NOW DO NOT DISAPPOINT

claimed to have sent had really been sent. poena Miss Babcock on June 18, he found FROM YOU TWICE BEFORE MORN-The records of the postoffice proved that that young lady missing. She had de- ING-ONCE BY LETTER AND ONCE AGAIN IN A DIFFERENT WAY." Johnson Jordan was on the witness stand all day, and passed through a severe

cross examination without wavering from At the close of the day, Justice McClin-

No Bond Allowed for Collins.

as witnesses. ing day, Harper gave bond, signed by J. N. Nelson (deceased), secretary Topeka . James, Sam James, Albert Whitman, Athletic association; L. L. Kiene, report-

John Collins in Jail.

Bond having been refused for Collins, hi family did everything possible to make h jail cell comfortable. He was locked a private cell at the northeast corner (the jail, second floor. He was supplied Joe: Keep things mum, if anything with furniture, bedding, books, and even an electric fan by his mother and sister, who visited him daily, bringing his supper from home each day in a large basket. Collins occupied his time by reading, smoking and studying shorthand. News-

paper reporters were refused access Detective Harbaugh left town shortly after the preliminary, and the excitement

in regard to the case quieted down. No Change of Venue.

nounced that they would apply for a justice of the peace; Jas. Wick, stenog- unadvisedly does he array himself in conchange of venue to some other district rapher at preliminary; J. W. Thurston, spicuously novel garb. He is not like his court. But after spending some time col- Topeka banker; Speed Hughes, Topeka womenkind, but waits to be gently led into change their plans, and ask for no change. Willard, Topeka banker; J. M. Miller, The great arbiter of fashion is, of course It was developed that John Collins was essary for the trial were passed through North Topeka, U. P. agent; John Doane, newest ideas into the circles of smart sowith. The transcript of evidence, a book Topeka man; A. Wood, Kansas City tel- clety. What he condemns is anathema; of 700 typewritten pages, was filed on Aug- egrapher. ust 24. The information with 66 endorsed witnesses was filed September 7. On October 1. Judge Hazen of the district court set the case for trial on November 28, and decided to call a special venire of 50 jurymen. On November 21, the state endorsed 27 more witnesses.

Trouble With Johnson Jordan.

Johnson Jordan, the Lawrence Negro, whose testimony is the foundation of the travels between Topeka, Lawrence, New- cancellations. The printing was identical for the state to become afflicted with a John Coyne. sort of periodic heart disease.

He was to be prosecuted under the Cubbi- taken up. son law, and might have been sent to the ney Jetmore. It was claimed that the weeks. defendant's attorneys.

and there was no trace of his whereabouts. | meet the demand for news of this trial For several days the telegraph wires were by the most complete and comprehensive kept hot with messages of inquiry, and report of the proceedings that money and finally Mr. Jordan wrote a letter of his reportorial ability can procure. If you

The Probable Defense.

It has been impossible to get the defend-

Ex-Chief of Police John M. Wilkerson and I will trust you in spite of your fail- handling the secret service for the de- and to big advertisers.

tions are that strong evidence will be farming facilities of the west, its immense

that Collins wrote these letters.

Negro for revenge. It is said that the ment and greatly to the publicity of the husband of a certain woman who form- concern who had the advertisement. ily did the murder.

deadly enemies. There are said to be wit- er's Ink. nesses who will swear that they saw a certain colored man leaving the Collins house on the morning of the murder. It is assured that everything legal skill He Pointed Without Looking in the be done by Attorneys Godard and Hayden.

The State's Case On the other hand, it will be interesting to watch for new evidence from the state. It is rumored that more letters of an incriminating nature exist, written by John Collins. The testimony of Frances Babcock, which was unavailable at the preliminary, will be heard, and promises abound with sensational statements. The state has indorsed a list of ninetythree witnesses on the information. Many of these witnesses will not be used at the trial; some have left the state. The com-

given, together with their identity: Witnesses for the State.

plete list of witnesses for the state is here

Dr. H. K. Tefft, physician; A. W. Knowles, told straightforward stories that can not neighbor of Collins; John C. Pickens, first be doubted. On the other hand, what Joe Smothers; Joseph Smothers, Lawrence believe his unsupported statements. negro; Webster Wilder, student at K. U.; "To offset the evidence offered in be-Collins, mother of defendant; Grace M. before you only the story of one inter-Jess Harper, Lawrence negro; Johnson Look upon the honest witnesses for the Jordan, Topeka negro; Porter S. Cook, plaintiff, and then look upon the defendsheriff Shawnee county; W. I. Jamison, ant, and there can be no question what Topeka attorney; Dell Harbaugh, detec- your verdict will be. He is now cowering tive; Dr. Westerfield, coroner Shawnee in the back of the room!" Lawrence; Wm. Weidemann, confectioner; ance! Look-look-" tock bound John Collins over for trial in rence; Joseph Spencer, Lawrence negro; seat. The court, wearied with his long he district court on the charge of murder. On the following day, June 24, Justice Lawrence merchant; David Passon, Law- by the defendant. McClintock refused to allow bond to be rence merchant; Frances Babcock, Law- It was to the court that the attorney given for John Collins, holding that it was rence society girl; Mrs. Babcock, mother had unconsciously been pointing and when a non-bailable offense, the presumption of of Frances Babcock; Mrs. Pierson, sister the jury and spectators followed with their guilt being great. Harper and Jordan of Frances Babcock; Joe Johnson, Law- eyes the direction indicated by his dexter were granted bond of \$500 each to appear rence negro; Tom Griffin, Lawrence ne- finger and took in the situation, there was gro; Ed. Wright, proprietor Big 400, To- an uncontrolable burst of laughter. Jordan and Harper were taken down peka; Perley Atkinson, Topeka 400 negro: among their friends at Smoky Row to try Edith Bivens, wife of Johnson Jordan; H. matic point that he had conceived did not and secure bond. They were accompanied J. Bevelle, manager Western Union Tele- influence the verdict.-Green Bag. by a deputy constable. About 8 o'clock graph company; Mrs. J. F. Mills, receiving that night, all three returned to the county | clerk Western Union Telegraph company; Reuben Knowles, neighbor of Collins; On June 28 Jordan secured bond. It was Grant Meade, brother-in-law of John Colsigned by John Owens and Thomas lins; A. Logan, telegrapher, Kansas City; Needs No Finery to Set Off His Slaughter, both Negroes. On the follow- Dr. L. Y. Grubbs, Topeka physician; C.

> John Chapman, steward Lakeview club; mage. Mrs. Jane C. Stormont, resident of Tosity; Chris Epley, restaurant keeper, Law- dress of the male creature.

The Trial To-Morrow.

It is likely that the great trial of John Henry Collins will not begin till about 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. It will be held in the district court room on the second floor of the court house This room will accommodate between 300 torial, or other charmers, who have pro-

others inside of the railing. The officers of the court are Judge Z. T. state's evidence, has caused the attorneys Hazen, Stenographer Ralp Gaw and Bailiff

and 500 people besides the attorneys and posed the adorning of the male person with

The first work will be the selection of a invariably leaves personal ornamentation Jordan was first arrested on October 18, jury, and it is probable that this will not to the other sex. He dearly loves to see at Newton, on the charge of gambling, be completed before night. Sheriff Cook his own and other women in "pretties:" There is no doubt that he was caught has been busy serving summons to the he likes rich materials and glittering jewseeing me in person as to why you did not shooting craps. The deputy sheriff of the special venire of jurors, and last night re- els and laces and fal-lals generally on county stood by and watched him make ported that all but five of the summons | them; but, while the dazzling and brilliant eighteen separate and distinct "passes" of had been served. The regular panel will feminine butterfly crams him, he is himwarrant with eighteen different counts, these. The special venire will then be here to somber hues and plain clothes

cued from this dilemma by County Attor- believed that it will continue for two having a profound belief in himself, as

Report of the Collins Trial. The prominence of the late Mr. J. S Collins as a citizen and the extraordinary circumstances which surround his murder have created an interest in the trial of his Jordan then failed to communicate with son that is not only local but is felt gro dive in the state till it was broken up "After I have trusted you as I have you own accord, stating that he was in Hutch are not now a regular reader of the Capi-The detectives were in the possession of by Chief of Police Strauss, who raided the should not fail me in an emergency like inson, and would be on hand for the trial at 10 consult the Christian Scientists, which, cents per week.

A SUGGESTION.

Advertisements to be Used on Government Stamps.

liere is a suggestion to the government Some of the recently issued two-cent postage stamps which have come to my notice are works of art, and show a pic-

Accident Insurance company also sent an found in the possession of Jordan at New- was decided to hold the hearing in the Or you con send your letter here to the case is nearly completed. It is said that what a great advertisement this is for was decided to hold the heart and the court house, man with whom we met before, and tell the defense will call only a score or so of the west! The scene shows a field in a week." which there are a dozen or more men at Hotchkiss took depositions of all the wit- of Passon, a Lawrence pawn broker, Meantime, the defense retained Chas. but to bring it to my house at once. Seal It is believed that there will be no great work driving four horse-sulky plows. The nesses and went homt. Harbrugh inter- where it had been placed Jess Harper. A Hayden of Holton as counsel with A. A. it carefully and be sure to use a special sensation sprung by the defense. Indica- stemp is a strong presentation of the

advertises himself well, too!-Odds and If the government can afford to adver- Ends.

The defense will also exert every effort | tise some particular section of the counto prevent the introduction into evidence try in this manner, why could it not afof any of the letters alleged to have been ford to advertise some particular city, or written by John Collins to the Negroes. even some particular concern? Many cit-It will be claimed that there is no proof | ies and very many concerns would be willing to give an immense sum of money for The defense will likely advocate the an advertisement of this kind. This would theory that Collins was murdered by some | add greatly to the revenues of the govern-

erly washed clothes for the Collins fam- | What wonderful possibilities in this scheme if the government would only The fact that J. S. Collins was foreman agree to it, and why should the governof the jury that convicted Nevils of the ment not sell an advertisement just as murder of Mrs. Matson some years ago readily to any of these as it would give may be used to show that Collins had it free to the farmers in the west?-Print-

A LAWYER'S MISTAKE.

Same Direction.

A Duluth, Minn., attorney recently underwent the experience of having a wellconceived point in his address to a jury come to a most unexpected conclusion. He had introduced half a dozen witnesses to prove his client's claims, while his opponent had contented himself with but one witness, the defendant himself. who did not create an especially favorable impression by his conduct on the

After the evidence was all in the at-

torney arose to make his address to the

jury. He dwelt upon the evidence, and especially upon the preponderance of witnesses upon his side. In the meantime the defendant had walked to the back of M. C. Jenkins, Topeka policeman; Albert | the room and had taken a seat near a win-Heartburg, Topeka patrol driver; Tim dow, behind the attorney. Donovan, sergeant Topeka police; Edwin "My client's claim," said the attorney Lange, neighbor of Collins; Lizzie Moore, in closing his plea, "has been supported daughter of sheriff of Douglas county; by six trustworthy witnesses, who have

one to arrive at Collins home; Geo. Flegar, has the defendant to show? He has not Topeka policeman: Cornelius Carter, beer able to find one man to support his Lawrence negro; Kitty Smothers, sister of flimsy defense, but has asked the jury to C. N. Haggart, student at K. U.; Helen A. half of my client there has been placed Collins, sister of defendant; W. M. Lyon, ested man. Can you believe him after reporter; H. M. Steele, ex-chief of police; observing his manner upon the stand?

county; A. Strickland, Lawrence man; D. | "Look at him," continued the attorney W. Nellis, administrator Collins estate; in a fierce crescendo, pointing to the place G. G. Gage, Topeka capitalist; Miss Shaw. where he had seen the defendant seat him-Lawrence woman; Mrs. Brook, florist. self. "Look at his bearing-his counten-

Ernest Goggins, Lawrence negro; B. The last words were in a sharp di-Adams, Topeka negro; J. Y. Niles, special minuendo, and the last sound was almost delivery carrier; Mr. Brook, banker, Law- a gasp. The defendant had changed his Ross Broadhead, Lawrence business man; confinement to his accustomed place, had C. H. Morrison, Topeka jeweler; Walter sauntered to the back of the room and for Howe, Lawrence, banker; Geo. Hutson, the moment occupied the place left vacant

The attorney won his case, but the dra-

ORNAMENTAL MAN.

From time to time vague rumors are

set affoat that man, having grown aweary Wm. Harper, S. A. Cannon, Eben Bald- er; Clarence B. Garvin, Lawrence mer- of the simplicity of his evening dress, win, and Wm. H. Brown, all Lawrence chant; Chas. Worden, Topeka jeweler craves to become a bird of gayer plum-Last year we heard that those members

peka; Jess Elliott, Topeka firearm dealer; of the sex who do take serious thought of J. J. Kinney, Santa Fe detective; Howard their raiment proposed to wear colored Leonard, Lawrence student; Ed. Miller, and embroidered waistcoats, by way of redrug clerk, Lawrence; Sam Jeans, Law- lieving the sombreness and monotony of rence policeman; E. R Engle and Geo. O. | that "make-up." which is at once the uni-Foster, in registrar's office, State univer- form of the waiter and the ordinary full rence; Ida McElheney and Minnie McEl- This year we are assured that it is the

heney, daughters of a man for whom Mrs. lapels of the hideous "swallow-tail" which Harper worked; Jerry Woodside, Law- are to undergo adornment. Visions of their rence negro; Martin Moloney and Harry men folk in garments suggestive of Solo-Wymermuler, work in wire factory, Law- mon in all his glory, or at least of the oldrence; Elmer Pierson, brother-in-law of fashioned needlework bellpulls has Frances Babcock; Herbert Wing, K. U. already arisen before the eyes of those student; Ticklin Harper, brother of Jess who give ready credence to such humors. Harper; Wm. Beal, Lawrence merchant; They need have no fear. In matters of Jas. Donnelly, Lawrence liveryman; Mrs. dress man is a conservative animal, and Weaver, Lawrence woman; Will Sullivan, he has, moreover, a wholesome horror of In July the attorneys for the defense an- Lawrence man; W. S. McClintock, Topeka | making himself ridiculous, Not lightly and

At intervals the various legal forms nec- foreman of coroner's jury; J. C. Fulton, the Prince of Wales, From him radiate the what he approves becomes the outward and true modishness of the gilded youth. But, like all men, the Prince of Wales ever shows a marked disinclination to go to extremes in dress; and he has, depsite all that has been said and suggested steadfastly refused to hear the voice of the sar-

> satins and embroideries and such-like It is a curious fact that man, who is otherwise a thing of vanity and conceit.

and severe lines. Various estimates are given on the prob- Maybe, however, there is just a touch of A Nature's most successful effort, he considers that he is complete in himself, and that it is as superfluous to adorn the noble masculine form as it is to paint the lily or add a perfume to the violet.-Lady's

Christian Science Healing.

From the London Truth. Some two years ago I was attacked by an affection of the eye (a detachment of the retina) an ailment I believe incurable by medical science. I was persuaded to out of curiosity, I consented to do. I wrote to a Mrs. Ward, then, I believe, "chief prophetess" of the sect in London. I wrote to her, making the following offer: "That in the event of a successful treatment she should receive £200 as remuneration for her services; in the event of a nonsuccessful treatment the nominal fee of 2s. 6d." In answer she wrote that Christian Science did not labor for money, and declined my offer. I wrote again, saying I would be prepared to give this sum (£200) to any charity she might name, she retaining only such remuneration as she thought fit. In answer she replied she "preferred a guinea

One Failure of Advertising. Editor's Wife-Poor baby's circulation is very bad, John. Editor (abent-mindedly)-Strange!