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John Radle, of Silver Township, shot dead by his own Hand!

At about six o'clock last Monday morning, John Radle, living in Silver township, near the Morgan School House, this county, shot him self with a rifle. From the testimony of the witnesses before the Coroner inquest, held at one o'clock, p.m., of the same day, we deduce as follows John Radle, deceased, went out to the barn yard that morning, turned the cows out, re-entered the house and went up stairs. Shortly after he had ascended the stairs, the report of gun was heard. His two daughters at the time were in a room on the first floor. They rushed out and cried "Pa has shot himself !" A son, Frederick Radle, and hired man were at the barn, and at once hurried up stairs. The words of the frightened daughters were only too true there lay the gray-haired father in his own blood-dead! The butt end of the rifle was resting upon a bed, the muzzle being under his body. Near by was a long piece of timber which had previously laid up in the vicinity of the rafters, and one side was covered with dust. At one end finger marks were distinctly visible. The conclusion was that the deceased had placed the butt end of the rifle upon the bed, having previously cocked the trigger, and with the strip of timber, discharged the contents the ball entering his heart. The body lay untouched until about the time of the inquisition. E. P. Purcell, acting as special constable, summoned a jury, who, after an examination into the cause of deceased's death, before J. D. F. Smith, acting coroner, rendered the following

VERDICT

STATE OF IOWA,)CHEROKEE COUNTY. An inquisition holden at John Radle's house in Silver township, Cherokee County, on the 30th day of June A D.1873, before J. D F. Smith, justice of the Peace acting as Coroner, upon the body of John Radle, there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed. The said jurors upon their oaths, do say after having; heard the evidence and examined said body, we do find that the deceased did come to his death by a ball or shot, fired from a gun in his own hand, said ball or shot taking effect about two inches to the right of the left nipple, on the person of the said John Radle. Given under our hands this 30th, day of June A.D. 1873. JAMES JENNESS, J. M. SMITH, ELIAS DUDS,

Deceased, is supposed to have been driven to this self destructive step by family trouble, having a few days before threatened his children to lay his own hands on himself if he was not more favored in the control of the farm affairs. He was in the 60th year of his age. Deceased was a native of Germany. He lived several years in New Jersey and at the close of the war became a resident of Scranton, Pa. From Pennsylvania he removed to Clinton County, Iowa, four years ago, and thence to Silver Township, this county, last September.