

THE TUCSON CITIZEN
Saturday 17 May 1913

SON, LACKING FOOD OFTEN,

Close Inspection Shows Charles Proctor Did Not Commit Suicide; Blood on Mouth and Gun by Side Led to Erroneous Conclusion When Body Was Found

Charles Proctor, Jr. galloped 40 miles over the mountains from Helvetia to reach his father, whom he had been told was sick and upon reaching his ranch saw the undertaker's wagon departing with the body. He had ridden the distance in four hours "on an empty stomach," that is to say, without eating. He fainted repeatedly but was brought to by Jack McVey and others.

That Charles Proctor did not commit suicide, as at first reported to Tucson by telephone, was learned upon inspection of the body. There was no mark of any kind upon it. It is believed that he died from heart failure of apoplexy. William Lowe, coroner of Santa Cruz county arrived from Tubac and reported officially that the cause of death was unknown.

When the family first discovered the body, lying at a distance of 50 yards from the house between the road and the fence, there was blood on the mouth and in the hand was a revolver.

Cobwebs on Gun It was not until Jack McVey who happened to be passing, examined the revolver that it was discovered none of the shells had been fired and that there were cobwebs in the barrel. It had not been fired in six months or six years.

Proctor had been nervous of late. He had not been in the house all night, but had wandered about, sleepless. The possession of the revolver is explained by neighbors on the theory that he imagined persons were trying to take his life.

Sheriff McKnight of Nogales investigated, but found no suspicious circumstances.

Family Now In Tucson Frank L. Proctor, his brother, arrived from Hollywood, near Los Angeles, Friday morning. His wife is with him.

The widow and the children came to Tucson Thursday night. She has been ill, and had returned to the ranch which is seven miles from Arivaca Junction.

The body was brought to Tucson.

The funeral of Mr. Proctor will be held at 9 o'clock Saturday morning from the chapel of the Parker Undertaking company. The service will be conducted by Rev.

L. W. Wheatley. Interment will be made in Evergreen Cemetery.