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## SOURCE ARTICLES

**1871-09 – Tales of a Frontier Town**

### **BILL DOW**

SEPTEMBER 18, 1871 - CASE # 1871-HM11

NEWTON – Shooting At Newton. The streets of Newton have again been stained with human blood. It appears that on Monday last, Bill Dow, a man not unknown to unenviable fame, had a fight with Lottie Foster, a demirep who formerly figured in this city, in which he beat her badly and put a “cap” on one of her “peepers.” Lottie, disliking the manliness (?) which characterized her interview with Dow, procured a revolver and as he was passing along the street, fired five shots, the fifth taking effect in his hip, inflicting a very severe wound. Dow still lives and will probably survive the deadly assault. *The Kansas Daily Commonwealth, Topeka, Kansas. Wednesday, September 20, 1871. Page 4.*

NEWTON - Another Murder At Newton. Newton got another red mark yesterday, a gambler a pistol wound, and the doctor a fee, in consequence of which of which business is looking up and the people are coming into town. A veteran gambler by the name of Bill Dow, who has been trying to figure somewhat prominently here as a saloon keeper, politician, and sport, was shot yesterday evening by Lottie Foster, an “unfortunate girl,” at the house of the latter. Dow was in company with “Little Mike,” another sport, and had stopped at the house for a moment’s chat with the inmates. While engaged in conversation with the proprietress, “Little Mike” in a spirit of fun began to throw watermelon rinds at her. The latter, seizing a stick, pursued, but was unable to catch him. Dow then playfully caught hold of her and called to Mike to come up, “that he had her fast.” This enraged the woman, and turning, she struck several violent blows in the face with a heavy key which she held in her hand, the first blow cutting a gash below the eye. Dow became angry in turn, threw her down and administered a sharp castigation. As soon as she was released, Lottie went into the house to get a revolver, and, returning, fired three shots

at Dow, one of which took effect in the fleshy part of the thigh, glancing from the bone and burying itself out of reach of the doctor's probe.

The wounded man walked as far as the railroad depot, and, sinking down, was carried home. At last accounts he was doing well. No legal steps will probably be taken by Dow, on account of his general unpopularity. *The Daily Commonwealth, Topeka, Kansas. Thursday, September 21, 1871. Page 4.*

## **A GERMAN WOMAN**

SEPTEMBER 19, 1871 - CASE # 1871-HM12

NEWTON – A German woman, a cigar vender, about 40 years of age, who has been in the habit of solacing her troubles by inhalations of chloroform, attempted to commit suicide last evening by placing a handkerchief saturated with ether over her mouth and nose. She was accidentally discovered insensible and nearly dead. Medical aid arrived, not a moment too soon, for she was fast nearing a state of coma. She will, however, recover. - Allegro. *The Kansas Daily Commonwealth, Topeka, Kansas. Thursday, September 21, 1871. Page 4.*

## **IRISH MAG & LIZZIE SMITH**

SEPTEMBER 20, 1871 - CASE # 1871-HM13

NEWTON – Two inmates of the Alamo dance house, named Irish Mag and Lizzie Smith, while in a drunken frolic, took poison this evening, and were with difficulty resuscitated. They are in a low condition, but will probably recover. They gave no reason for their rash act. *The Kansas Daily Commonwealth, Topeka, Kansas. Wednesday, September 20, 1871. Page 4.*

## **CARLOS KING**

SEPTEMBER 22, 1871 - CASE # 1871-HM14

NEWTON - A shooting affair came off at Rowdy Joe's dance house in Newton on last Saturday night, at about half past 11 o'clock, which resulted in the death of Mr. King, the assistant City Marshall, and the mortal wounding of David Lisle, a grocery keeper in Newton and a former resident of Chetopa. The affair, as we are informed, grew out of King's demanding a revolver from a Texan. The Texan drew his revolver and shot King, and after this several shots were fired, one of which struck Lisle. Lisle was not dead this Monday morning, but no hopes are

entertained of his recovery. Officer King had been on the job only 1 month. *The Topeka Record, Topeka Kansas. Monday September 25, 1871. Page 2.*

NEWTON – The Carnival Of Blood. The Assassin Still At Work. A several day's absence on a buffalo hunt, from which I have but just returned, has prevented me from mailing you the details of the murder of Deputy Sheriff King on Saturday last. The coroner's jury rendered this verdict: That C.B. King came to his death by a pistol wound inflicted by one Thomas Edwards, and that the shooting was done feloniously and with intent to kill.

On Saturday evening last, about 10 o'clock, Officer King, in accordance with the requirements of the law, discovered Edwards while the latter was in one of the dance houses in Hide Park. As he met, with some resistance, Tom Carson, an acting constable, stepped to King's assistance, and leveling his revolver ordered him with an oath to "throw up his hands." The pistol was then given up and Edwards was released. Carson returned to Newton while King remained on the premises.

Some two hours later, as King was standing outside of the door, in the same fated area which drank the blood of Martin and others of the victims of the Sunday morning horror of a month ago, Edwards approached him and placing a Derringer close to his breast, fired, the ball lodging near the heart. King staggered into the house, exclaiming "Who shot me?" and immediately fell over on his arm. His friends caught him and the blood gushed from his mouth in a thick black stream, and a moment later he was dead. Edwards fled and has not since been seen.

Thus perished Officer King, with whom there was no better gentleman nor truer friend, and no more respected man in Newton. Thus does the red hand of the assassin continue to do its bloody work, for the taking of King's life is known to have been a premeditated act – plotted by others and accomplished by Edwards.

Newton is tremendous with excitement and indignation over it. The officers of the law say they are on the lookout for the murderer and his accomplices, but no one as yet has been arrested, and, if the chances be properly weighted, no one in all probability will be arrested.

Cannot Topeka send us a couple of detectives who will do their duty fearlessly and vigilantly? Brute force without sagacity is plenty enough here, but we want men who possess both. The funeral of King took place on Monday, and was largely attended. Business houses generally closed during the funeral ceremonies. The man who was accidentally shot by Edwards during his scuffle with King, is doing well, the ball having entered the fleshy part of the thigh. - Allegro. *The Kansas Daily Commonwealth, Topeka, Kansas. Thursday, September 28, 1871. Page 4.*

NEWTON - The News says that in the fall of 1871, Carlos King, city marshal of Newton, was shot in Rowdy Joe's dance house. His widow went back to Michigan and swore that King died from wounds received in the army, and succeeded in getting a pension, which she has drawn

regularly until a very recent date. It leaked out that King was killed in a Kansas dance house, and Mrs. King and attorney have been arrested on a charge of perjury and defrauding the government. *The Junction City Weekly Union, Junction City, Kansas. Saturday, June 8, 1878. Page 8.*

NEWTON - The older settlers of this city will remember Carlos King, city marshal here in 1871, and who was killed in a dance house row on the south side of the railroad at what was then known as Hyde Park. His body is interred in the city cemetery.

Lately, King's wife and a lawyer in Michigan have been arrested on the charge of criminally endeavoring to secure Mrs. K. a Government pension on King's life; they having sworn that he was killed in the Government service. S. J. Bentley was summoned thither last Friday to testify in the case against them. *The Newton Kansan, Newton, Kansas. Thursday, May 30, 1878. Page 3.*

WICHITA - Chris Kimmerly is turning out some nice work from his shop. Saturday we noticed a nice tomb stone, American marble, on which was inscribed the name of Carlos B. King, a brother of S. S. King, an attaché of this office, who was killed at Newton several years since by a Texan, while he was acting in the capacity of City Marshal. The lettering and Masonic symbols on the slab was very neatly done. *The Wichita City Eagle, Wichita, Kansas. July 27, 1876. Page 3.*

NEWTON - The father and brother of Carlos King, a City Marshal who was shot and killed in this place the first year of its existence, by a Texan, were in town last Monday and removed his body from the old burying-ground to the city cemetery. *The Evening Kansan-Republican, Newton, Kansas. Thursday, April 13, 1876.*

