

Benjamin Anderson
Killed by John Miller

John M. Miller, jr., resident of the late David Sayre neighborhood on Cow Run, about four miles from Angerona, is in jail charged with the murder of Benj. Anderson, of an adjoining farm.

Miller is a son of J. Miranda Miller, is [30] years old, has a wife and six children and was a hard-working, thrifty land owner. Anderson was probably fifty [five] years of age, had a family mostly grown, the youngest being nine, and lived on a farm owned by his son Samuel immediately below Miller's. They were related.

The men had been [can't read about three words] some time over a line. The difficulty that lead to the tragedy of Monday, which occurred about nine in the forenoon was over rails that had been tossed about by the flood. Each claimed the rails and each had gone with his team to haul them. Miller was accompanied by his wife and Anderson by his wife and daughter. The ball, which was shot from a [22 or 32?] caliber pistol, entered an inch over the left nipple and lodged in the right shoulder blade.

Anderson died in 15 or 20 minutes after receiving the fatal wound, without making any statement.

At one o'clock an inquest was held by Squire B. F. Sayre.

The same Justice held the preliminary examination Monday night in the school house near Anderson's. The State was represented at this hearing by Prosecuting Attorney O'Brien and the prisoner by Attorneys W. P. Kerwood and W. O. Parsons. The house was crowded and the examination lasted all night, though the only witnesses examined by the State were deceased's wife and daughter and the accused offered no evidence. At the conclusion Miller was remanded in jail. Bail was not asked for.

In one undated and unnamed paper it says in the "Circuit Court" section, under "Indictmens [sic] Presented":

John M. Miller, murder of Benj. Anderson.

Next article, from the "Jackson Herald", 12 July 1901:

Bail Refused

J. M. Miller, jr., applied to Judge Miller, Wednesday, to be admitted to bail upon the grounds that the alledged shooting was in self defense and that imprisonment was injurious to prisoner's health. After hearing the evidence the court took time to consider until 9 o'clock this morning when bail for the present was refused, but the papers retained and no order made.

The last copy is from the "Jackson Herald", looks like a date of Aug. 16, 1901, but I am not sure about the 16. Under the column heading of "Conclusion of Court Proceedings":

The application of John M. Miller, indicted at this term for murder, for bail was heard Saturday by Special Judge N. C. Prickett, who took till Monday morning to consider, at which time a recognizance was granted in the sum of \$10,000, with Miranda Miller, Lewis M. Miller, Chas. A. Miller, George W. Miller, Frederick S. Miller, Francis M. Miller, Elmer L. Stone, Daniel T. Campbell, Isaac Barr, Okey Miller, William A. Parsons, J. O. Shinn, Geo. B. Crow and W. P. Kerwood as sureties.