

September 8, 1914

JIM O'DAY IS DEAD

Jim O'Day died at the Baptist Hospital in Aberdeen at eight o'clock Saturday night, as the result of a revolver shot in the neck, fired by Mrs. O'Day the night before.

There had been trouble between the two for years, and they were once divorced.

Glib of tongue and pleasing in manner when so disposed, O'Day was able by good promises to induce her to remarry him. But his habits left to his wife the burden of caring for and supporting their little family of children by the hardest kind of toil and drudgery. As the story goes, in his rambblings he had induced another woman to receive his attentions. To induce his wife to again bear the burden of securing a divorce, despite the prospect of an addition in the near future to the number of children which she would be compelled to support, was the occasion of his visit to the Groton home last week. Her refusal to accede to his demands led to a quarrel. As he had been known to resort to violence in the past, Mrs. O'Day purchased a revolver for self protection.

On the night of the tragedy she had barred the house against him, and as he attempted to break in, a shot laid him low. Dr. Jones was called and found the patient bleeding profusely from a wound in the neck. The bleeding was stopped and he was taken to Groton hospital and on Saturday was transferred to the Hospital at Aberdeen as a county charge.

Few women would have gone thru the troubles which have fallen to the lot of Mrs. O'Day during the past ten years and escaped the insane asylum or the grave.

We do not advocate the killing process as a settlement of domestic difficulties, but in this case it may be said that the bullet which found its mark may have saved the other woman from a foretaste of hades.

A coroner's jury was empaneled, consisting of R. A. Mather, C. W. Kranhold and L. T. Strong. They went to Aberdeen yesterday afternoon to view the body. This morning at 9:00 the jury assembled, and after taking evidence, rendered a decision in accordance with the known facts, without expression as to the merits of the case.