

JIM HAYES COMES TO EARLY END

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NOTORIOUS HOTEL MAN LOCKS HIMSELF IN A ROOM AND COMMITS SUICIDE THREATENS TO DO IT FIRST

Dresses Himself in Spic and Span Attire and Prepares for His Exit from This World – Tells People That He Intends to Kill Himself and Does It Before the Deed Can Be Prevented – His Later Life One of Constant Clashes With the Police, in Which Hayes Generally Gets Out of Hot Water – Doings at Delevan House the Cause of Much of His Trouble.

James Hayes, the hotel man, ended a short but very notorious career yesterday afternoon in a room at the Globe Hotel by taking one drachm of sulphate of morphine. It was a dose sufficient to kill twenty men, physicians said.

Hayes was best known as the former proprietor of the old Delevan House in [321] West Fayette street. For the past two years he had had what was once the Greenway Hotel [1] on the Cicero plank road, just across the city line at Seventh North street.

Despondency brought on by business difficulties and probably a general remorse over his desperate career is assigned by his friends as the primary cause of the suicide. Hayes had openly boasted of his intention and only a few hours before his death bade farewell to some of his acquaintances.

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon Hayes went to the Globe and registered. He wrote his name in a bold, plain hand and was assigned to a room. He appeared to have been drinking at the time, but it is said he was not intoxicated.

WAS IN FINE TRIM

Hayes was dressed in dark clothes of good material, white shirt and collar, black derby hat and a long dark raglan coat. He looked unusually good and he appeared to be in the best of spirits. He carried a gold watch and chain, a good sized roll of bills and a small amount of small silver money.

The hotel clerk sent him to a room. Very soon afterward a man entered the hotel and upon finding Hayes' name on the register told the clerk about the threats he had made and advised that he be watched. A bellboy was sent immediately to the room but found nothing wrong.

It appears that very soon after entering the room Hayes undressed and went to bed. He took the morphine about 5 o'clock, the physicians think, draining the entire contents of a bottle, the seal upon which showed it had been freshly broken.

He placed the empty bottle back upon a stand in the room and the poison took effect quickly. One of Hayes' acquaintances learning that he had hired a room at the Globe telephoned Mrs. Hayes at the plank road place that she had better come at once to the city and look after her husband.

FOUND HIM IN A STUPOR

Mrs. Hayes drove down between 5 and 5:30 o'clock and went immediately to her husband's room. She found him sleeping heavily. The hotel people were notified and investigated. They were suspicious of the man's stupid condition and summoned Dr. J. A. Lane, Dr. S. S. Bibbens was also called.

The physicians immediately notice evidence of poisoning. They applied a stomach pump and electricity, alternating with hypodermics and worked over Hayes for half an hour but could not restore him to consciousness. He died at 6 o'clock.

Mrs. Hayes and a sister of the dead man Mrs. Ellen Brown, were about the hotel while the physicians worked and when they learned that there was no hope of recovery became almost hysterical and could not be quoted.

Detective James J. Woods, who was called, summoned Coroner Mathews and the latter gave permission to have the body removed to McCarthy's undertaking rooms.

Detective Woods took possession of the empty morphine bottle and later turned it over to the Coroner.

When Hayes left another saloon he owned in Pearl street near the corner of North Salina yesterday morning he told the bartender he was going to kill himself and the man says he saw him put a small bottle into his pocket, which fits the description of that found in the room after the suicide.

HAYES WAS FREQUENTLY INVOLVED IN CASES THAT LED TO POLICE COURT His Friends Say He Was His Own Worst Enemy and He Was Often in Jail, but as Often Escaped.

Hayes was born at Plattsburg, NY, about 34 years ago, and was the son of the late James Hayes, a respected resident of that place. The young man received a good education and is said to have had practically all the advantages of an ordinary boy, but was quite wild.

Ten or fifteen years ago he left Plattsburg and went to Albany to make his home. He was employed there by a contractor. After living a short time at Albany he came to Syracuse and went into the saloon business, later purchasing the old Delevan House in West Fayette street, near the New York Central station, which is now known as the Auburn Hotel.

It was during his conduct of this place that Hayes began to get into serious trouble. Numerous complaints against the place were made to the police and were followed by efforts to close it, but it was not until a man was killed there three years ago that they achieved any kind of success.

ACCUSED OF GRAND LARCENY

The records in Police Court show that Hayes was first arrested in this city on June 25, 1896, on complaint of W. Flanagan, who charged him with the grand larceny in the second degree in the theft of his gold watch and chain, worth \$125. Hayes at that time gave his age as 28 years. He pleaded not guilty, waived examination and was held to await the action of the Grand Jury. The records of the latter were not available last night.

On August 14, 1897, Hayes was arraigned for assault in the third degree upon a man and pleaded not guilty, but afterward changed the plea and was fined \$25 or twenty-five days. He paid the fine.

On November 26 of the same year he was fined \$5 for a breach of the peace at his place four days previously.

The next appearance of Hayes in Police Court was on April 19, 1898. Then he was charged with a violation of section No. 334 of the Penal Code in being a common gambler and his case was returned to April 20 following and he was let out on \$100 bail. After his examination he was held for the Grand Jury.

CHIEF WRIGHT THE COMPLAINANT

Chief of Police Wright was the complainant against Hayes on December 28, 1898, when he was charged with maintaining a disorderly house at his place in West Fayette street. He pleaded not guilty, was given a trial by jury and was afterward acquitted.

January 20, 1899, Hayes was given a suspended sentence for breach of the peace.

During a convention of Foresters in this city about three years ago one of the delegates was killed at the Delevan House. His body was found early in the morning upon the sidewalk in front of the place.

The theory was advanced that the delegate had been robbed and thrown out of the window. This was denied by Hayes and employes at the place. The Grand Jury was in session at the time and the former was taken before it to tell what he knew about the affair. From a subsequent investigation it appeared that the man had met death accidentally.

RELEASED ON CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS

When Hayes appeared before the Grand Jury he admitted having sold liquor in his place after midnight on the night in question. The same Grand Jury indicted him for this, it being claimed he had violated a provision of the excise laws. The case went to court.

Attorney John F. Nash, who appeared for Hayes, raised a constitutional objection in the trial of the indictment on the ground that the defendant had accused himself of the crime in telling his story to the same Grand Jury which found the indictment. Mr. Nash won his point, the Court sustaining the objection. Hayes was never tried.

In August, 1900, Hayes was arrested, charged with being a common gambler, at a farmers' picnic at Three Rivers. He was tried at Pulaski before Judge Stowell and was defended by William Kennedy of this city. He was convicted and besides being sentenced to the Oswego County Jail for sixty days, a fine of \$200 was imposed. Hayes served a part of the term and paid the balance of the fine.

THIS TIME WAS PLAINTIFF

In May of last year [1901] Hayes and Orville Dean got into court. Hayes had a certain contract with Dean. It is claimed to buy certain land in Phoenix, but when the contract became due it is alleged Dean would not fulfill it and Hayes sued him for breach of contract through Attorneys Edgcomb & Rafferty.

Almost simultaneously Dean had Hayes arrested on a grand larceny charge, accusing him with taking several hundred dollars from him at a hotel in this city. The case went to the Grand Jury, an indictment was found but was never tried. The other suit was on the present calendar in Supreme Court, but was put over the term.

Immediately following the death of the Forester at the Delevan House Hayes sold the place [2] and bought out "Pard" Orton's "Greenway" Hotel on the plank road, which he had conducted since. A short time ago he started the place in Pearl street.

He was married on January 8 last [1901] in this city.

Recently Hayes decided to sell his Wolf street place and negotiations with a perspective purchaser were practically closed last Monday, when the deal fell through. This preyed upon his mind. The purchase price of the Orton place was \$4,000 but it is said Hayes' present assets are not more than \$2,500.

ALWAYS HAD MONEY

Hayes was well known among sporting men all over Central and Northern New York. He always had money, spent it freely, and as one of them remarked last night, "he was his own worst enemy." He had a fondness for horses and nearly always owned a good roadster.

Coroner Mathews last night said it was a clear case of suicide and that no post mortem would be necessary.

NOTES:

[1] Pard Orton's place was not known as Greenway's. That name was used for a while to describe the hotel and saloon located on the Cicero plank road by the Watering Trough, just past the railroad overpass. About a ½ mile north of Orton's place along the plank road.

[2] The actual sale of the Delevan House took place after the death of the Forester delegate on May 10, 1899. However, the establishment had been on the market since at least March 25, 1899.