

# George Dooly

## Second Victim — OF Bad Crossing Geo. Dooly Loses Life At Woolen Mill Crossing In Monticello. HIT BY CENTRAL TRAIN

### Victim 24 Years Old and Son of Richard Dooly of Mt. Pleasant Township.

The bad crossing at the Woolen Mill added another victim to its long list of fatal accidents and narrow escapes last night when the evening passenger south on the Illinois Central struck and killed instantly Geo. Dooly, of Mt. Pleasant township, and a team of horses he was driving home with a load of grain.

The victim of last night's accident is a son of Mr. Richard Dooly and he was 24 years of age. He was conducting the Patrick Doyle farm, four and one-half miles northeast of Monticello this year and was in town with a load of grain.

The crossing, as every one knows, is a dangerous one for teams. The road is cut down, leaving high banks on both sides, and the St. Paul track, which runs along almost parallel with the Central track on the west, is high and shuts off the crossing from the north. A passer on hearing a whistle can hardly tell whether it is on one road or the other, and trainmen say they cannot tell whether the crossing is clear until close to it.

The train bell was ringing and it had given the crossing whistle and also two short whistles just before striking the unfortunate man. The engine hit the horses close to the wagon and one was killed outright and the other so badly injured it was dispatched later.

Mr. Dooly was thrown against the engine and then thrown some thirty feet against the cattle guard. His head came in contact with an 8×8 post, cutting a long gash over the top of his head which would have killed him if he was not dead before striking it. His leg was broken and jaw bone broke and his chest crushed in. A side of the b...*missing text*..crushed in and there were...*missing text*...on his arm and body.

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...John Gleason and the engineer was Thorn Skeel. The train was backed up and the body taken to the station and from there to the undertaking rooms of Matt Marty. Coroner Henry Ball drove to Monticello last night, empaneled a coroner's jury and an inquest was held before Justice Alvin Stout. The verdict, after taking testimony of two witnesses was that death was due to accident by being hit by an engine on the Illinois Central road. The jury empaneled was composed of: Will Loveland, Ed Meythaler, Jacob Wertenweiler, Art Staedtler, Henry Freitag and Henry Quicks.

Ray Zimmerman testified that he was at home, thirty rods from the crossing, and heard the crossing whistle and the two whistles just before reaching the crossing and also heard the bell ring. Gottfried Withrich saw the young man thrown against the post but could not remember about the train whistle.

Engineer Skeel saw an accident was unavoidable and reversed his engine at the same time pulling the whistle cord. The accident gave him a great shock as it was the second man he has killed within a week. The other was last Saturday, when he ran over and killed a man at Hawthorne, Ill., who had caught his foot in a frog and was drawn under the train.

The victim was a young man highly respected in his community, a sober and industrious man having many friends. He is survived by his parents and three brothers, Richard, John and Henry, all living near Monticello.

There have been many narrow escapes at this crossing and some six years ago Wm. Pratt met his death in practically the same manner as young Dooly. Sometime ago an automatic alarm was installed at the crossing but it is said it does not work every time and sometimes when a train passes it will ring for an hour afterward. When the train backed up last night the alarm sounded but whether it did the first time over is not known.