

EDITOR OF OLD DAILY NEWS DIES

J. F. Mitchim, Tried For Killing Monroe Harrell, Dies in Missouri

J. F. Mitchim, former publisher of the El Paso Daily News, and the man who was tried for the killing of Monroe Harrell, an ex-employee, died recently at his old home in De Soto, Mo. Copies of the De Soto Press, of which Mr. Mitchim was editor, have been received here telling of his death.

Mr. Mitchim came to El Paso in 1904 and took charge of the Daily News, which was being published at that time on Mills street, where the Standard grocery is now located. Prior to coming here he was the editor of the De Soto Press, which he sold to his brother, C. C. Mitchim, who some time later married Mrs. C. E. Kelly's sister. He was a candidate for state senator in Missouri in 1900 and was defeated by one vote.

Killing Sensational.

The killing of Harrell created a sensation at the time it occurred. Harrell had been employed on the News as an advertising man and had quit. A photograph which was taken of the old dance hall on South Broadway figured in the shooting. The photograph was made for publication in the News and Harrell was led to believe that his likeness would appear in it. He notified the News not to publish the picture, it was said at the time, and the quarrel which resulted in his death followed in the old News office on May 20, 1908. Harrell was shot by Mitchim in front of the News office. Harrell was a prominent member of the Masons and was given a midnight funeral by the Scottish Rite before his body was returned to Oklahoma for burial. Mitchim was tried and acquitted of the charge later in the 34th district court, pleading that Harrell was advancing on him with a slung-shot, after having threatened his life.

After the trial Mitchim went to Alhambra, Calif., where he became editor of the Alhambrian Advocate. He returned to De Soto in 1914 and resumed his position with the Press. He was 49 years old at the time of his death and was a native of Mt. Vernon, Ill.