

**LANGSTON PLACED
IN PRISON FOR
SAFE KEEPING**

**Was Brought to Little Rock
by Sheriff Surridge
Yesterday.**

STOUTLY DENIES CRIME

**ALLEGED MURDERER OF A. W.
SHIREY DECLARES FACTS
WILL VINDICATE HIM.**

J. C. Langston, charged with the murder of A. W. Shirey, the aged and eccentric merchant who was assassinated while standing in his store at Mizzoua three months ago, was brought to the penitentiary here yesterday and placed in prison for safekeeping.

He was in the custody of Sheriff W. K. Surridge, of Lawrence county, who made a long, tiresome trip to Chicago, South Dakota, to make the arrest.

After his arrival at the penitentiary he was allowed the freedom of the premises to some extent, not being placed in a cell until last night, when he was locked up.

Langston a Young Man.

Langston is a young man, apparently about 25 years of age, and not a bad looking man. He emphatically denies his guilt and declares that he will be able to prove his innocence if the case is brought to trial.

On the other hand, the officers declare they have a chain of evidence which points around Langston that will, beyond doubt, result in his conviction as the murderer of Shirey or vitally connected with the murder.

For several years, it is said, Langston was in the employ of the Iron Mountain Railway at Mizzoua as station agent and operator. His captives say they have evidence in the way of letters showing that Langston was in love with Shirey's wife, who was a very young woman, while Shirey was a man past 70 years of age.

Langston's Movements.

It is also indicated that evidence is at hand to show that, although Langston left Mizzoua a few days before the murder, he was in the locality of Mizzoua on the date of the killing and that he purchased a gun similar to that found broken in pieces near where Shirey was shot to death.

To all of this Langston enters a stout denial and declares he can prove that he was not in the vicinity of Mizzoua when the crime occurred.

The assassination was a most unimprobable one. Shirey, who had had much litigation in that section of the State, and who had accumulated considerable wealth through judicious business methods, attended court at Hotwellville one day last March in connection with a case in which he was a litigant.

He returned to Mizzoua that afternoon and during the evening went to his store. He was standing near the vault in his store when a shot was fired through an open window, the discharge having fatal effect and killing him almost instantly.

Property to Odd Fellows.

When his papers were examined following his assassination, it was found that he had left the bulk of his property to the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows in Arkansas for the purpose of founding a sanitarium. It was estimated that the estate was worth anywhere from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

Officers of the Grand Lodge at once took up the search for his slayer, and through detectives and the officers of the county, finally worked out a chain of circumstantial evidence against Langston, who was located in South Dakota. Sheriff Surridge, accompanied by John F. Paul, grand secretary of the Odd Fellows grand lodge set out for that State and made the arrest.

Langston will probably be held here until the convening of the circuit court in Lawrence county.

Langston confined awaiting trial, 6-12-1910

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