

NEWSPAPER GLEANINGS

WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

TRUAX. Last Sunday evening at 7:45 Mrs. D.W. Truax, wife of Hon. D.W. Truax, founder of Tekoa, and the lady who selected the name of the town, died in her husband's arms while being carried from her invalid's chair to the bed. Death came so sudden that it was a surprise to all. The lady's two sons with their wives were attending a lecture at Truax Hall when a messenger brought them the tidings. Only a short time before her death, Mrs. Truax conversed freely with friends and seemed in excellent spirits, though it was known that she had been failing for some time. A few moments before the end came, she asked her husband for a drink of water, she had no sooner taken the first swallow than the head was thrown back and after a few gasps the good lady who had lived to the ripe old age of 71 was dead, leaving behind her aged partner over whose head nearly as many winters have passed, and who for forty years had shared with her her joys and sorrows. Mary Ann Truax was born in Odensburg, New York, December 26, 1821. Here she received her early education and in 1852 moved to Dakota County, Minn., where in the fall of the same year she was married to D.W. Truax. To this union, five children were born, three of whom now live in this city. In 1883 the family came to Whitman County, Washington, and purchased the land upon which now stands Tekoa. In 1888, when the town site was platted, it was she who suggested the name Tekoa for the proposed town. During all these years she was a kind and loving wife and mother, and it may be truthfully said that the world is better for her having lived. Deceased had been an invalid for nearly three years and death was no doubt a welcome relief to her. The bereaved relatives, and especially her aged husband who is known and respected by all, have the sympathy of the entire community. Funeral services took place Tuesday at 10 o'clock, Rev. O.F. Thayer of Farmington conducting ceremonies in a very impressive manner. The funeral cortege was very large. (Later in the same newspaper) Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Truax and daughter Bertha of Farmington, Geo. W. Truax, wife and daughter Mable, of Spokane, J.R. McQueen and wife and Uncle John Truax of Farmington attended the funeral services of Mrs. D.W. Truax at this place last Tuesday. ** *The Tekoa Globe*, December 31, 1892

WELSH. W.C. Butler, the well-known conductor, received a telegram from his wife in Delevan, Ills., last Monday stating that her sister Mrs. Welsh, who spent the greater part of last summer at this place, died Saturday morning. Mrs. Butler has been with her sister several months. While here Mrs. Welsh made many friends, who deeply regret her death. *The Tekoa Globe*, April 23, 1892

WISHARD. A double wedding occurred at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Nelson last Sabbath. Their daughter, Miss Manie, was united in marriage to Mr. S.C. Harber of Spokane, and their nephew, Mr. Ed Wishard of Spokane to Miss Carrie Gubbel. The parties left on the evening train for Spokane where they will reside. Their many friends here wish the happy couples long and happy lives. *The Tekoa Globe*, May 21, 1892

YORK. Web York is the bloomin dad of a fine girl born at his home last Sunday night. Web appeared on the streets next day wreathed in smiles and generously responded to the call from the boys for cigars. *The Tekoa Globe*, March 19, 1892

**Ed. Note: Mary Ann Truax, wife of D. W. Truax, had the maiden name of Truax. After her death in 1892, D. W. married Mary Ann Anderson. So, there were two women named Mary Ann Truax, both married to D. W. and all 3 are buried in the Goldenrod Cemetery in Tekoa. D. W. died in 1916 and the 2nd Mary Ann in 1934. Only the grave of the 1st Mary Ann says, "wife of D. W."

These articles were extracted from various newspapers by Mary Simonsen, Whitman County Genealogical Society (9/2009). The newspapers are available on microfilm at the Washington State University Holland Library, <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/holland/holhp.htm>.