

Clark Boughton

29 July 1851 to 25 Oct 1874

Clark Boughton was born in Cortland County, New York, to parents John and Sarah M. Boughton. As an ambitious young man he began his printing apprenticeship in Monrovia, New York, but within two months suffered with ill health and was unable to work for more than a year. He was determined to learn the printing craft and completed his apprenticeship with G.W. Silcox in Syracuse and secured a position as foreman in the office of the Cortland County Democrat.

In April of 1872 Clark was again burdened by rheumatism and severe asthma and decided to go to Omaha seeking a more healthful climate. Physicians advised that the only hope was the healing climate of Colorado and with his family, parents and brother Jay, moved to Greeley, and then to Fort Collins.

In the fall of 1873 Clark was elected Larimer County Superintendent of Schools and enthusiastically organized the first Teachers' Institute ever held in the county. He joined the I.O.G.T., International Organization of Good Templars, dedicated to preventing harm from alcohol and drugs and was active in the community.

In the spring of 1874 he fulfilled his lifelong dream and established his own newspaper, the Fort Collins STANDARD. Clark wrote articles on the beneficial effects of climate and published his thoughts and suggestions on how to recover health in Colorado.

Driven by determination Clark worked fourteen hour and longer days, week after week until totally collapsing. His greatest concern was that the STANDARD should continue with a writer and his partner who shared his hopes and efforts, and withdrew from the newspaper. One week later on 25 Oct 1874 Clark Boughton died quietly at the age of twenty three.

