William H. "Billy" Adams
Newspaper Clippings 1885-1889
--1885--

(24yrs old)
Alamosa Journal - Jan 8, 1885, pg2

Alva Adams (Billy’s older brother) ran a hardware shop in Pueblo, CO. This ad shows Billy’s name for the first time as a partner.

Publication: Alamosa Journal (Alamosa, Costilla County);

Alva Adams & Bro. are the leading hardware dealers in Southern Colorado. They sell their goods at Denver and Pueblo prices and square treatment is accorded to all. It will pay you to travel miles to deal with them. Call and get acquainted.

Alva Adams & Bro. carry the largest line of hardware, farming implements, guns, pistols and ammunition, in the San Luis valley. Wholesale and retail

Don’t forget that Haskins & Ball have a full line of Mixed Paints all colors at bottom prices.

A full line of cook and heating stoves at

Alva Adams & Bro.

We would inform the people of Southern Colorado that they can save money by buying anything they need in the hardware line, at

Alva Adams & Bro.
This article shows Billy as a “Trustee” for the city of Alamosa, CO.
Publication: Alamosa Journal (Alamosa, Costilla County);

Town Board Meeting.

At an adjourned meeting of the town board, held at the recorder's office, Wednesday evening, Jan. 28, there were present: D. R. Smith, Mayor; W. Sabine, recorder and clerk; C. W. Givens, Louis Couley, Geo. H. Shone, and W. H. Adams, trustees.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

On request - the charges preferred against the Mayor at the last meeting were again read.

The object of this meeting was stated to be an opportunity for the Mayor to answer the charges against him.

Town Attorney Engley made a long statement of the law, in which he endeavored to show that the Mayor was not guilty of anything.

The Mayor when called upon to answer the charges, denied them all.

The town attorney again took the floor, and proceeded with his defense of the Mayor. Mr. Adams took the floor and asked Mr. Engley whether he was defending the Mayor, or whether he was aiding in the prosecution of the Mayor.

The town recorder and town marshal appeared as witness in behalf of the town, and fully substantiated the charges made by the board.

The Mayor was then sworn and endeavored to excuse himself for his neglect of duty, and in regard to signing script said that his refusal to do so was because he did not feel like it.

The town attorney then took up the matter again and said that nothing could compel the Mayor to sign the script as it had been countersigned by the clerk first.

The board then adjourned until Friday evening, Jan. 30, when they would render a verdict in the case.
Publication: Alamosa Journal (Alamosa, Costilla County);

DIRECTORY

ALAMOSA
BOARD OF TRADE

John Gerteisen .......... President
Geo. W. Rogers .......... Vice-President
E. C. Stevens ............ " "
Theo. M. Finley .......... Secretary.
Wm. Sabine .............. Corr. " "
H. I. Ross ............... Treasurer.

1889

Billy becomes Colorado Senator (28 yrs old)
First listing showing Billy as a State Senator at 28yrs of age.

**Publication:** San Luis Valley Courier (Alamosa, Costilla County)

**King Alphonso of Spain will shortly celebrate his third birthday with becoming ceremonies.**

**The Prospector wants the eastern part of Hinesdale county annexed to Rio Grande county. Good schmooze.**

**Gov. Cooper with the members of both houses of the legislature attending the Mardi Gras festivities at Pueblo this week.**

**The Rocky Mountain News shows a commendable streak of enterprise in patting after the style of the Courier in ordering its new dress.**

**Some of the leading citizens of Arizona have evidently been over into California on a pleasure trip lately as there was a train robbery on the 22nd.**

**Senator W. H. Adams is one of the youngest members of the state legislature but according to all reports he is making quite a record for himself.**

**Alamosa wants a flouring mill. A paper mill would find this a first-class location and no better place for a canning factory could be found in the west. Let us agitate the subject.**

**Royal Rex held a grand reception for his loyal subjects at the Windsor in Denver on Saturday, where he stopped over a day on his way to Pueblo, where he is holding high carnival this week.**

**President Cleveland has signed the territorial bill to the great satisfaction of all interested parties, both Democratic and Republican. This will add four more stars to the great American flag.**

**A special to the News from Washington dated the 22nd, states that Gen. Rosencrans has been put on the retired list with great honor by an almost unanimous vote of the house. This is a great tribute to a worthy soldier.**

**A few short days and Democratic heads will begin to fall. The only thing that makes the Republicans mad is the fact that the present administration has been so clean that there is nothing for them to raise a howl about. May they leave as good a record for the Democrats to take up four years from March 4th.**

**A new railroad company, supposed to be an offshoot of the Rock Island, with headquarters at Trinidad, has filed articles of incorporation. The capital stock is $3,000,000. Work will begin about April 1st. The proposed line is from Trinidad through California pass into San Luis Valley and from here to Taos, New Mexico.**
Alamosa Journal, Feb 20, 1889, pg1

Notice of hiring for the Adams’ hardware store.
Alamosa Journal, Mar 20, 1889, pg 1

See next page of this article for the reference to Billy. Billy owned a ranch here in Alamosa that he continued to operate while state senator and governor.
A call has been issued according to law for a general town election to take place on April 2nd.

For the last week the conduct of the town has been exceedingly good. All the lawyers have been away.

Judge Engley returned from San Luis on Friday having completed all of his business before that court.

Pat Murphy seemed to be the only loyal subject St. Patrick had in town on Sunday. He wore the green.

D. R. Smith says that the seductive game of “keep him in the middle” is fast losing its attractiveness for him.

Jim Wood the genial furniture man of Monte Vista attended the Masonic banquet here on Wednesday evening.

Geo. Easterday and D. J. Rogers are making arrangements for putting in a feed grinder and planing mill here.

Alamosa is going to have a hard fight to secure the Soldiers’ Home but she will get there in the merry spring time.

Billy Adams shipped six car loads of fine beef cattle from his ranch to the Denver markets on Saturday. This is the second large shipment he has made during the past six weeks.

The Echo says that Mr. J. J. Howard of La Jara will secure the contract for building the government school at Dulce, New Mexico for the education of the southern Ute Indians.

The habit of calling every little two by four piece of land a man happens to own a ranch is fast becoming obsolete. It will soon be farms and farmers instead of ranches and ranchmen.

A. E. Ponley left on Monday night for a business and pleasure trip to Pueblo, Denver and other points of interest. The lumber yard will be under the charge of Ed Douglass during his absence.

Every traveling man that comes into the valley makes this town and the Victoria Hotel their headquarters. No one knows a good thing when they see it better than the average drummer.
Work will not be begun on the new iron bridge across the Rio Grande at this point until after the high water in the spring.

B. F. Butler, John A. Kasson and William W. Phelps will represent this country at the Samoan conference in Berlin next month.

J. L. Phillips has been somewhat under the weather for the past week, in consequence of which he has been taking a lay-off.

Swan Akeyson now wears the conductor's cap as his own having been given the passenger run between La Veta and Del Norte.

Geo. Stout has ordered a new well-drilling outfit and will soon be ready to delve as deep into the bowels of the earth as any of them.

If some of our local sportsmen are not careful they will find themselves languishing in the bastile for killing game against the law.

The bill to submit the question of increasing the number and raising the salaries of the supreme court judges, was on Monday, recommended for passage in the senate committee of the whole.

Myron Wilkins, after giving the editor of this paper a horse that ran away with him three times going to Monte Vista and back, on Thursday sneaked away to San Luis to escape the wrath of the scribe.

If any one thinks this valley is not improving rapidly let them go out and try to drive across the country where six months ago it was all open prairie and they will find fences and houses and farms in every direction.

According to the La Jara Echo Frank Potter expects shortly to take unto himself a wife. Frank says he knows nothing about it himself, but under the circumstances he is excusable for his lack of knowledge on the subject.

In the case of Smith being arrested for grand larceny, as being an accessory to Caldwell in killing cattle last spring, the
H. A. Butters returned on Monday from a ramble over the country in the interest of the San Luis valley and Alamosa in particular.

A hen may lay a bushel of eggs, and may lay and lay and lay; but she can't hatch out without a mate—because she ain't built that way.

A. P. Gibson formerly proprietor of the Coryell Democrat came in on Thursday and continued on to San Luis to attend court returning on Monday.

Sheriff J. A. Garcia was in town on Sunday and with his brother C. Garcia took a ride through the Colorado zephyrs out to the latter's ranch.

J. V. Gault & Co. have added greatly to their ability to show goods and also the attractiveness of their store by the addition of some elegant show cases.

Chris Gunther has the reputation of bringing in more ducks and geese this spring than any four other hunters in the valley. Chris knows where they sleep.

Rev. Amos Bannister rode down to La Jara on Sunday in the midst of a howling wind and sand storm and held divine services in the school house at that place.

The snow Saturday night was very beneficial to those of our farmers who have their small grain planted. Going off as it did immediately it will save them at least one irrigation.

Caldwell in killing cattle last spring, the indictment was quashed on technicalities and Smith was released. Caldwell was sentenced to 30 days in the county jail. Smith deserved to be sent to the pen.

Col. Gibson of Coryell, Frank Hyatt, Frank Ottaway and John Fuy went to San Luis on Thursday to attend court. On the way over they got lost and Frank Ottaway in searching for the lost trail ran against a sage tree in a manner to black both of his eyes. This is straight business.

Curtis St. John the man who takes down the illegible utterances of the numerous lawyers of the sixth judicial district, and who does Judge Sumner's whiskey drinking for him is in town, and will remain until Monday, when he will go to Saguache to assist in holding district court at that point.

Let not senate bill No. 90 be lost in the last shuffle. The bill is for the protection of the farmers as against ditch corporations and is only fair and just. There can be no objections to paying for water in three installments in advance, save that the ditch companies will be obliged to give what they demand and receive pay for. No attempt to amend it in committee should be allowed to succeed. The absolute justice of the bill will compel its passage if it ever gets to a vote in the house. News.
Some commentary regarding a topic of closing the Sanford Post Office.

Publication: San Luis Valley Courier (Alamosa, Costilla County);

A FALSEHOOD.

A special to the Times dated March 11th from Alamosa contains some gross misrepresentations concerning the closing of the Sanford Post Office. The facts of the case as they have been given the Country by reliable Republicans in that vicinity are that not over half a dozen families received their mail at Sanford and that there was only two of these but what could get their mail just as often and just as easy from other post offices as they could at Sanford. No hardships seems to have been felt by anyone except by the Times correspondent and a few other imported politicians who have no interests at stake except to create dissensions and back up respectable citizens that do not believe as they do politically.

The special says:

"Much excitement and indignation prevails at the Mormon settlement at Sanford owing to the closing up the post-office. This is the result of an anti-election threat. The voters of this precinct were given to understand that if they did not support W. H. Adams for the State Senate that this postoffice would be wiped out. Dr. P. A. Limberg, the postmaster at La Jara, the nearest town, and one of the county Democratic leaders, together with Postoffice Inspector George Waterbury delivered this flat a few days before the election. It has been made effective, and the 600 residents who receive their mail at Sanford are grossly wronged because they could not be bulldozed into voting for a candidate they did not desire to see elected. Dr. Limberg naturally would be pleased to have this office discontinued for all time as it enhances the revenue of the La Jara postoffice--five miles distant--over which he presides. He is an offensive partian who should be speedily removed and his place fill by a competent and deserving Republican."
See next page (continued article) for reference to Billy
Passed unanimously.

Senate Bill No. 88, to more fully secure the independence of electors and the secrecy of the ballot. Amendments returned printed was passed, 20 votes in the affirmative. Senate Bill No. 125, the railroad bill, was then taken up and its discussion occupied most of the rest of the day. It was finally laid on the table by the following vote: Yea's — Senators Abbott, Adams (William H.), Bailey, Barela, Carpenter, Christian, Cochrane, Gardner, Gelder, Montez, McCandless, McCree, Noble, Poole, Wilson—13. Nays—Adams (Samuel), Ballard, Beckwith, Betts, Harkison, Kincaid, Newell, Oliver, Wais, Wells, White.

House—Two bills appropriating in the aggregate $82,500 from the internal improvement fund were passed by the House. Of this amount $50,000 was appropriated for the building of a reservoir on Clear Creek, in Clear Creek County, and $25,000 for the survey and construction of a canal along the western slope of the range in Grand County, for the purpose of increasing the supply of water in Boulder Creek. Eight thousand dollars was appropriated for the construction of a wagon road in Conejos County and $7,500 for the construction of a road to Conejos mining camp in Rio Grande County. Another effort was made to pass the bill making an appropriation of $50,000 for the construction of a reservoir on Cherry Creek in Douglas County, but the measure was again defeated.

House Bill No. 549, to provide for covering the interest on State funds into the State Treasury, was the first bill on the calendar for third reading. When put up on its passage it went through by a vote of 35 to 9. The friends of the bill, however, discovered that it would be opposed in the Senate on the ground that the provision fixing the salary of the State Treasurer at $5,000 a year could not apply to the present State Treasurer and that he could not receive a greater compensation than the $3,000 a year allowed the Treasurer as salary under the existing law. To obviate this objection and if possible to make sure of the passage of the bill, the vote by which it was passed was in the afternoon reconsidered. It was then amended so as to provide that it shall not go into effect until January, 1891, when a new term of the State Treasurer will commence. In this form the bill passed the House with only two voices against it and forty-two in favor of it.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30.

Senate—The following bills were passed: House Bill No. 238, to provide for the completion of a State capitol building.

House Bill No. 188, to construct a bridge across the Rio Grande River on the county line between the counties of Costilla and Conejos and the county of Rio Grande.

House Bill No. 190, for the recognition of the services of the soldiers and sailors who served in the armies or navies of the United States in the war of the rebellion.

House Bill No. 194, to provide for the construction of a State wagon road through Bear River Canon, between Steamboat Springs and Hayden.

House Bill No. 196, establishing the office of inspector of steamboilers and defining the duties of the Inspector.

House Bill No. 53, to secure the attendance of witnesses in criminal cases and to provide for the taking of depositions in the ho
House Bill No. 103, establishing the office of inspector of steam boilers and defining the duties of the Inspector.

House Bill No. 81, to secure the attendance of witnesses in criminal cases and to provide for the taking of bonds in that behalf or for taking the depositions of such witnesses.

House Bill No. 217, to provide for the assessment and collection of a tax for the years 1889 and 1890 for the purpose of aiding the construction of the State Capitol building.

House Bill No. 343, to appropriate $5,000 for the purpose of reimbursing Mrs. Margaret Rose of Leadville, Colorado, widow of Captain Francis Rose, deceased, late captain of B Troop, First Battalion of Cavalry, Colorado National Guard.

Senate Barela called up Senate Bill No. 37, for the creation of the county of Lincoln, from the table, and in Committee of the Whole it was refiled and started once more on its travels under the name of Baca County, which will take in all the territory proposed to be taken up by the two bills creating the counties of Tlaga and Baca, which were vetoed by the Governor on the previous day.
Two hundred and twelve new M. D.'s have been turned loose on a suffering public this spring.

Probably before another Courier goes out to the world Alamosa will have natural gas in abundance.

Wolfe Londoner, the let-er-go, stillager, grocery and whiskey man was elected mayor of Denver.

According to dispatches in the Denver papers nearly all the Colorado towns elected straight republican tickets this year.

The legislature has adjourned. The newspapers of Colorado should let the dead past be buried. A wake is unnecessary.

There are more Colorado towns that could with profit follow the example of Leadville and say that gambling must be stopped.

Reports from Washington are to the effect that President Harrison expects to take a vacation at an early date. Keep quiet, Mr. Harrison. At the end of your four years' term you can take a vacation for the rest of your life.

At 12 o' clock on Wednesday, Adjutant General Klee of the C. N. G. was sworn in and took possession of his office. The boys all over the state seem to be thoroughly satisfied over the appointment of Mr. Klee to this important office.

La Jara seems to be getting the principal part of the Conejos Camp trade. Our business men should look into this matter. While glad to see our sister town prospering we don't like to see Alamosa suffer from the effects of it.

The original candidate for town clerk after his scheme was exposed by the Courier withdrew from the race. A good idea.

It is very probable that Murat Halsted will yet be appointed as minister to Berlin by President Harrison after Congress has adjourned.

Edwin Booth the great tragedian is reported to have been seized with a stroke of paralysis at Rochester theater on Wednesday night. He will probably recover.

The Journal continues to copy after the style and spirit of its editorials from the local columns of the Courier it will in time come to be a respectable looking sheet.

The Governor of Idaho territory has called a constitutional convention to meet at Boise City on July 4, 1889, to form a constitution for the new state of Idaho, which bids fair to be done by the next congress. Idaho is one of the Territories that is entitled to statehood.

The Courier may make some blunders but hopes the public will excuse them on account of youth and inexperience.

We are not yet properly on to the combine of living on wind, and booming everybody's business through our columns that do not patronize us. Never mind, we may some time reach that cherubine state when we will be able to please all the cranks in town.

Outside of the 11th Judicial district, W. H. Adams worked faithfully and well for the best interest of his constituents. And in one way or another his bill might be looked upon as a political scheme to provide offices for a few more needy republicans. Senator Adams thought he was right in opposing the bill and the Courier don't know but what he was after all the way things have turned out.
This commentary reference a horse race that Billy competed in.

Don't Go.

Alamosa Colo., April 21.

I am sorry to know that Alamosa contains a man who would match a fair and square horse race, as Al Fitzer did, and then get another horse and try to make the entire town believe it was the horse he first matched by reaching its mane and otherwise dressing it up. Massachusetts tenderfoot is not that easily fooled. I am very sorry that our senator Adams had his horse's nice mane cut off, as Billy is a nice man and had a nice horse, and we would rather have our senator have more style than to ride the streets of Alamosa on a roach-pony.

Compliments of
G. W. Brannum.
LOCAL NEWS

Subscribe for the Courier.
Fresh oysters at City Restaurant.
Fresh confections at City Restaurant.
Fancy job work at the Courier office.
A new line of cigars at City Restaurant.
C. A. Johnson is attending court at Conejos, this week.

If you would do a good business advertise in the Courier.
For fresh bread, cakes and pies go to the New England Bakery.
Mr. Clancy of the firm of Catrin, Knowles & Clancy, was in our town, Tuesday.
Harry McClelland, we are glad to learn is slowly convalescing from a severe illness.

For first class job work on short notice at reasonable prices, call at the Courier office.
Boston brown bread and baked beans (Saturday) at the New England

Mr. A. D. Springer, our enterprising furniture dealer, is in Denver this week, on business.

C. E. Bryant is building new coal sheds and will have a lot of nut coal on hand to supply the wants of his customers, at the lowest possible figures.

W. H. Sanford, a former resident of this place, passed through the city the first of the week on his way to Washington Ter., to seek new fields of labor. Success to the young man.

The executive committee deserve credit for the fair posters they have gotten up and posted in our town. The fair is bound to be a success with the liberal premium list that is offered.

Baptist services at Presbyterian church on Sunday, Sept. 22nd, at 3 p.m., by Father M. A. Clark. Covenant meeting on Saturday 21st, at 2:30 p.m. at same place. All are cordially invited.

Mr. Frank Ruby, Alamosa's popular grain and feed merchant, left Monday for Albuquerque, N.M. on important busi.
Boston brown bread and baked beans every Saturday at the New England Bakery.

Leave orders for Boston brown bread every Friday evening at the New England bakery.

Judge Platt Rogers, of Denver, spent the first part of this week in Alamosa on legal business.

MARRIED: HAYS, DUNN.—Chas W. Hays and Miss Caroline Dunn, by Rev. Amos Bannister, Sept. 15.

A number of prominent citizens of Alamosa, visited the La Jara fair and report it a grand success.

Water referee McIndoe's court is in session this week with a good attendance of lawyers and witnesses.

Hon. Ralph Twychedell, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, acting Solicitor general of that territory, was in the city, Tuesday.

Sergeant Frank is a Daisy when it comes to finding excuses. For particulars call on the officers of B company.

Rev. Amos Bannister left for Pueblo, Monday to spend a few days on business.

W. H. Adams won first and Ray Duffy second money. They attended the races Friday and Saturday.

H. H. Dubendorff, left for Denver, yesterday in company with his wife, who will go to Leroy, Minnesota to spend the winter. Mr. D. will stay in Denver a few days and probably see something about his post office prospects.
Rev. Amos Bannister left for Pueblo, Monday to spend a few days on business and pleasure. He will return, Friday.

Our popular Capt. has taken the responsibility of giving the members of B company a dance in the Armory, Sept. 26.

Conductor Tracy, went to Denver Monday to attend the grand pow-ua of the Nights Templers and for other purposes.

John Gerteisen is opening up a fine line of goods. Everything nice and new, the result of his recent trip to New York.

All members of B Co. should attend their meeting next Monday night at 7:30. Be prompt and we will get through earlier.

One of our prominent young doctors is very lonesome now, and will be until about December. His wife is away on a visit.

The amateur orchestra is practising nightly and in the near future they hope to be able to furnish orchestra music for all occasions.

Married: Perrin, Dustin.—Robert Wood and Minnie Jane Dustin at St. Mary's Church, Tuesday morning.

Now that the annual encampment is over, the members of B company are giving their attention to social matters, for the coming season.

The artesian well on the property of Conrad Bucher, at the corner of State Ave. and 5th street is progressing nicely. It is dug over 300 feet.

When you want a good photo call on E. F. Hilton, Alamosa, Colo. He makes them large, he makes them small, both for the album and well.

L. Slavick & Bro. removed yesterday to the old Franz stand on 6th street, where he hopes to meet all of his old customers and many new ones in the future.

The vacuum irrigation pump, to be exhibited at the La Jara fair, was unloaded here Sunday. It doesn't take much room, but it throws the water all the same.

Regular services with sermons at St Thomas' church, on Sunday next, both morning and evening. Sunday school at the usual hour. All are cordially invited to attend.

We are pleased to say that the scandal that was floating in the air during the past few days, is without foundation. Our people should be careful how they circulate such rumors.

have been visiting the family of Mr. Jordan for the past two months. They are well pleased with the valley and will probably return and make it their permanent home.

The La Jara fair closed Sunday. There were some of the finest exhibits of farm and garden products ever shown in the valley. The attendance was not large, yet a great interest was manifest in the agricultural outlook of the valley. The best of the exhibit will be shown here on Oct. 2-3 and 4 during our fair. Don't fail to come and enjoy yourself.

S. E. Van Noorden of the San Luis valley Farmer was in Alamosa, Monday in the interests of the Farmer. He had been to the La Jara fair, and reported it a grand success. His paper was left in the care of a lady editor, and he will go to Kansas on business, to be gone for about two weeks. Mr. Van Noorden is a genial accommodating gentleman and deserves the liberal patronage he is obtaining for his paper. Success be with you.

Notice to Contractors.

Notice is hereby given, that sealed proposals will be received at the office of M. B. Colt, until the 25th inst., to build a school house in District No. 21 in Conejos county. Plans and specifications may be seen at Mr. Colt's office. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

T. J. Freeman,
Sept. 17th, 1889.
Publication: San Luis Valley Courier (Alamosa, Costilla County);

This week is the anniversary of the first artesian well in Monte Vista. There are now a hundred wells flowing within a mile of the post-office and during the year it is probable that more than five hundred have been sunk in the valley. The value of this exhaustless supply of pure, soft water everywhere at such a trifling cost is beyond computation. — Prospector.

Billy Adams met with a painful accident Monday afternoon, while exercising his fyers at the fair ground. His horse fell on him, breaking his ankle, injuring his shoulder and bruising him up pretty bad generally. He is doing well at this time and the physicians say he will be all right in a short time. It is pretty tough on Billy to be forced to remain away from the races during the fair.

A letter from State Engineer Maxwell this week locates the State bridge on Oak Street, which is the correct location. This action on the part of the State Engineer is in accord with the recommendation of the local engineer, Mr. Nickol, who made the survey, and whose motive will not be questioned. It is understood that bids will soon be asked for and work on the bridge will be started at once. — Prospector.

Chas. Ross has leased the bakery department of Smith & Handley’s establishment, and rented the room adjoining the Victoria on the west and embarked in business on his own hook. He will carry a full line of cigars and tobacco, confectionery, etc. and run a lunch counter in connection with his baking business. Mr. Ross is a fine baker and one of the boys and will enjoy a rushing business from the start.
Updated as of: Jan 24, 2007

More articles will be added as the research continues…