

THE DISPATCH.

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FOR LIFE OR DEATH.

Annie Canovan and Mary Tucker Now on Trial.

Names of the Grand Jury.—Resume of the Tucker Poisoning Case.—A lot of Witnesses and Some Expert Matter to be Considered.

Chief Justice Tuck is presiding in the circuit court, opened yesterday. There are several criminal and civil cases and the court will probably be in session at least two weeks, probably longer. The principal case is the Queen vs. Annie Canovan and Mary Tucker.

The prisoners are charged with having poisoned Minnie Tucker, sister of Annie Canovan and daughter of Mary Tucker, by administering poison, in the form of strychnine to her on the morning of Jan. 26th, last. The circumstances connected with the preliminary examination before Police Magistrate Dibblee is fresh in the minds of the public. Mary Tucker in her examination on that occasion said that the deceased had frequently spoken of putting herself out of the way. Mrs. Canovan was at their house. She (Mrs. Tucker) was outside getting some water and coming in found deceased in convulsions.

She soon died, but before her death said. "Is there no one to whom I may tell my story, I did it with my own hands." Dr. Cummins, the coroner, stated that Mr. Tucker said in his presence, that she thought or wished that her soul was in hell. Caroline Brewer said that deceased had expressed the fear that the prisoner would poison her.

Dr. Somerville of Bristol alleged that the prisoner Annie Canovan came to his office on the 22nd, of January and asked for poison to kill foxes, which had destroyed her hens. He gave her a drachm of strychnine. It was in the original package. Mrs. Edmund Carroll said that Mrs. Canovan was jealous of her sister Minnie, and that there was trouble when they were together.

There was a good deal more evidence but the main points are embraced in that given above. Jas. Tucker's (the father) evidence was the effect that deceased died in great agony having fits and foaming at the mouth.

A post mortem was held on the body of deceased. The stomach was taken out and sent down to Mr. Best, at St. John for analysis. A very important question will be the presence or absence of strychnine in the stomach.

Wendell P. Jones is defending the prisoners.

Mr. A. S. White, attorney general, is representing the crown. The following are the grand jury:—

J. H. Corbett, Wm N Hand, Wm D Rankin, John Lindsay, Uriah Hanson, George Malloy, Elisha Shipp, Gideon Phillips, Alex Gilmore, Wm J Owens, Colin King, George Melville, Wm R Wright, Frederick Smith, Geo McLeod, Dennis McGaffigan, John Kearney, W W Hay, John Jameson, Jarvis R. Tracey, C E Gallagher, Hamilton Seeley, William Plummer, Chas P Bull.

The other cases are:— The Queen v. Melvin and Chalmers Crabb, arson.

Queen v. G. F. Craig, assault on constable. Queen v. Jas. McBride, assault.

The civil case is Henry A. Connell vs. Geo. W. Upham, an action of assumpsit.

A Deadly Drink.

Dibblee Giberson, son of George Giberson, of Bath, and Charles Sweeny, the one aged 25, and the other 22, went over to Houlton recently on their way to join a lumber drive. At a drug store they asked for some alcohol and witch hazel to use as an outward application on their limbs. They afterwards drank the concoction and young Giberson died. It is thought that the Houlton druggist may have put methylated spirits in the place of alcohol. He marked the bottle poison, and warned the parties not to drink of it. Sweeny is getting better.

St. Luke's New Organ.

On the evening of the 22nd inst the new organ in St. Luke's was inaugurated. The church was filled to overflowing. The service was of a special dedicatory character. During the service Mr. Bourne presided at the organ after which Prof. Bristowe organist at the Cathedral, Fredericton, gave a recital which was a rare treat. Among the selections give to show the capabilities of the new organ were March Religieuse by Guilmant; Posturale by Wely; Grand Cœur by Smart; Postulate by Westbrook; War March from Athalie, by Mendelssohn; March in F. by Silas. All were rendered with exquisite finish and expression.

The Archdeacon, in his address gave an interesting account of the rise and progress of musical instruments. Great organs were now built, the variety of whose musical sounds, it was as difficult to calculate as to

count every wave on the ocean from the tiny ripple on the beach to the immense waves which hide from our not very distant view the hull of the largest vessel that floats. He spoke of the threefold influence in the stars (1) centripetal (2) attraction of each other star (3) solar attraction. So with the pipes of an organ. Each had (1) its own true note (2) tuned in accord with each other (3) with the whole organ itself. Carrying the simile to our lives, each Christian owed (1) his duty to himself (2) to his fellow man (3) to his God. He made a kindly reference to the firm from whom the organ was bought expressing satisfaction with the work they had done. Concluding an instructive address he said:—It is in accordance with the unvaried custom of the church in all times, that a special dedication shall be made of this special gift for God's service. Let us have that in our minds today, let us ever keep it in our minds in the future as its sweet and full tones are heard accompanying the praise of our lips and hearts. It is not placed here for show to eye or ear, to gratify human pride, or win human affection. It is simply for the honor and glory of God.

On the Sunday following Prof. Bristowe presided at the organ at both services and after the evening service played a few selections to a most appreciative audience who seemed never weary of listening to the beautiful harmonies produced by the Prof. One of the selections Song of Hope by Batiste, was a rare gem. Messrs. Casavant Bros., of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, have more than fulfilled the expectations of those interested in carrying out the specifications called for. The voicing of the different registers, especially the solo stops voix celeste and obos on the swell organ are particularly delicate and effective.

The Late David Semple.

David Semple died at his residence East Florenceville, on Tuesday morning 19th after an illness of about three weeks. Deceased had typhoid fever and paralysis of the brain. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1841 came to New Brunswick when 20 years old. He was a tinsmith and sheet iron maker and carried on that business until his death. Mr. Semple took an active part in public affairs. He was post master and was secretary to the school trustees for twenty six years, was one year in the county council, and took an active part in Sabbath school and the temperance cause. In fact he was ready for every good word and work. He was a Forester being a member of Florenceville court. He was also a mason a member of Woodstock Lodge F. & A. M. for twenty years and when Carleton Lodge No. 35 F. & A. M. was organized he took an active part in its organization, and was an officer in the lodge, S. Warden. A widow and ten children survive to mourn the loss of a kind husband and loving father. The Presbyterian church loses a worthy member and the community a good neighbor. Deceased was 57 years old. The funeral took place from his late residence on Thursday 21st at 2 p. m. and was under the auspices of Carleton Lodge No. 35 F. & A. M. A large delegation went from Woodstock to take part in the obsequies.

Does Any One Know The Lady?

Mike Bohan, of Bath, lately received a letter from Dr. G. J. McNally, who is in Doncaster, Eng. The doctor sends a dodger of a side show of Barnum's circus, now at that place, and as part of the dodger refers to a Woodstock girl we give it here:—

MISS JESSIE ALLYNE,

THE LADY WITH THE WONDERFUL GROWTH OF HAIR,

Was born in Woodstock, New Brunswick, Dominion of Canada. She is of Scotch descent, and a distant relative of the Scotch poet, Robert Burns. Although there was nothing remarkable about her father or mother, she was noted—even when a child—for her wonderful growth of hair, which by medical advice, had to be cut from time to time, as it absorbed so much nourishment from the body. The hair, which has been cut off, has been carefully treasured by her parents, and if each clipping was placed to the length of the hair she is now possessed of, it would measure the enormous length of over 16 feet. The lady has about 100,000 hairs in her head, consequently, if each hair was placed end to end, we would find a total measurement of one million and six hundred thousand feet, or five hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three yards (533,333).

Matrimonially Inclined.

Two well known members of the fire department will be married this week. They are Wm. Bolger who left yesterday for Boston where he will be united in the holy bonds to Miss Mable Coulter, formerly of Woodstock. In this town to-day James Hamilton, of Hamilton Bros. another popular member of the force will take unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Maud Oliver.

The O'Regan.

A well known Irishman came to town on Monday and in making inquiries about the war, said he had heard that the O'Regan was captured.

AT HIGH TENSION.

American Navy Cuts Cable to Havana.

All News in Control of Their Fleet.—Havana Blockaded and Will be Bombarded. Facts about Spain.—Her Colonies and Fleet.—No Naval Engagement Yet.

They, who have been hoping against hope that something would turn up, to prevent actual hostilities between the United States and Spain, may no longer deceive themselves, by hugging vain delusions. The war is on. Perhaps, even war is better than the state of uncertainty that has prevailed for the past month or so.

As reported in last week's paper Congress passed the resolutions declaring the people of Cuba, free and independent, recommending intervention by the armed forces of the United States. The president signed the resolutions and an ultimatum to Spain and sent a copy to Senor Polo, the Spanish ambassador at Washington, who immediately asked for his passports. These passports are simply an announcement to all Americans that the Spanish minister is about "travelling abroad" and that all courtesy and protection is to be accorded him while passing through any of the states of the union. The action of Senor Polo in resigning his ambassadorship, virtually meant war. The necessary passports were furnished. In the ultimatum Spain was given some forty-eight hours in which to reply. The reply came very suddenly. Senor Polo cabled the terms of the ultimatum to the Spanish government. The American government at the same time cabled the same to Mr. Woodford, the American minister at Madrid. Before Mr. Woodford could do as his instructions were, notify the Spanish government, he himself was notified that all diplomatic communications between the countries had ceased. He got his passports and left Madrid for Paris. Senor Polo had gone to Toronto.

Many different reports come as to the plans of the two contesting countries. It was announced on Thursday that the American fleet had received instructions of a most positive nature not to fire a shot at Havana, but when the order to advance is given, the fleet shall blockade Havana and Porto Rico. Spain will be starved into submission and unless she takes the initiative there will not be a gun fired. The United States wants to win a peaceable victory. If, however, the fortifications should open fire on the ships doing police duty at the port or along the coast the big ships will fight. They will subdue the fort and then retire out of range again. When Havana and Porto Rico have surrendered, and not until then, will the United States army or navy attempt to enter Cuba. This plan of action will involve weeks, and perhaps months, of blockade.

The question of what constitutes contraband of war and what are the rights of American goods in neutral vessels are already bringing inquiries to the state and treasury departments. It is believed that Great Britain and Germany will protect their merchant marine against any sort of search for enemies' goods or for contraband. The Spanish cruisers would be expected to take the word of a British commander to the effect that he carried nothing but neutral goods or goods entitled to the protection of the neutral flag. A search for contraband goods under such circumstances would be at the peril of the searchers. It would be justified if goods were found which were indisputably contraband of war, like munitions and arms, but the search would not be justified, and would lead to instant trouble with the government whose flag was thus insulted if no justification of the search could be shown.

Preparations for the protection of all American ports have been extensively made. With respect to Portland, Me., all channels leading to Portland harbor from the sea will be closed to navigation by a system of explosive torpedoes, and all masters of vessels are forbidden to attempt to pass through any except the channel from the southward between Portland and Cushing's island. The forbidden passages are Whitehead, Hussey's Sound, Chandler's Cove; between Great Chebeag and Little John's island.

In these forbidden channels all buoys will be removed, and it would be extremely hazardous to attempt to pass through them. All bearings and courses are magnetic. The crews are working night and day to put the mines in the harbor. The work at the government stations about the bay is being pushed with the greatest rapidity.

BAR HARBOR, ME., April 22nd, 1898.—Maj. R. L. Hoxie, United States officer in charge of fortifications for Maine, was here today making plans for fortifying the entrance to Frenchman's bay. Turtle island and other points near the mouth of the bay were visited.

Everyone is interested in the war news beyond all other news. The public must be content to wait for accurate news. A war is not like a base ball match or even a prize

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