

Higgins Found Guilty of Murder.

Verdict Accompanied by a Recommendation to Mercy.

END OF THE FAMOUS DOHERTY MURDER TRIAL AT ST. JOHN.

(Special to the Herald.)

St. John, Sept. 24, 3 p. m.—The jury in the Doherty murder trial have returned a verdict of "guilty" against Frank Higgins, with a recommendation to mercy on account of prisoner's youth.

The prisoner's face flushed as the verdict was announced, but he showed no signs of breaking down.

Mr. Mullin will argue on behalf of the prisoner with a view to try to still save his life by getting leave to have a new trial or getting the sentence of death rescinded, which according to the law will be impossible.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

St. John, Sept. 24—For about two hours this forenoon Judge Landry addressed the jury in the Higgins murder trial.

Shortly after twelve the jury retired, and the court adjourned until half past two.

The judge reviewed the evidence pointing towards the prisoner's guilt, at first without accepting the stories of Higgins and Goodspeed.

He referred to the conduct of the prisoner and questioned if it was that of an innocent boy.

He depicted in vivid language the alarming state of morality among this band of youths, and reviewed the evidence that seemed to show that not only Higgins and Goodspeed knew of young Doherty's fate, but many of their chums too. It was the duty of the jury to protect the community.

Higgins appears as cool as usual.

Tuesday's Proceedings.

(Telegraph.)

Mr. Justice Landry will deliver his charge to the jury in the Higgins case this morning, and a verdict may be reached early this evening. His honor yesterday intimated that his charge would be quite lengthy.

The closing scenes in the trial yesterday were full of dramatic interest.

The twelve men in whose hands rests the fate of the prisoner sat, through the addresses of counsel, seemingly impassive, yet keen to take quick note of every point made by the opposing advocates.

Behind the bars of the prisoner's dock, to the casual observer the most indifferent man of all, sat Frank Higgins. He had none of the appearance of a man under the shadow of a terrible accusation. On the contrary he might have been but a spectator attracted to court only to gratify his curiosity.

The day was occupied in hearing the arguments of Hon. Mr. McKeown for the crown and Mr. Mullin for the defence. Those in the court room had an excellent opportunity to compare the oratorical methods of these two. Mr. McKeown was both eloquent and terrible, as he marshalled the facts of the crown's case in impressive and logical sequence. Seldom has such argument been heard before a local court. Mr. Mullin's earnest, forceful defence commanded much admiration. The trial promises to rank among the most famous in the annals of the province.

And through it all the prisoner sat without betraying by even the quiver of an eyelash that he was at all interested in the proceedings. Once or twice during the afternoon he smiled cheerfully during Mr. McKeown's address, and when that gentleman referred to the taking of a paper from him on Monday afternoon, he produced the paper in question and, holding it up in his hand, said to his counsel:—

"Here 'tis, Mr. Mullin."

His demeanor throughout was wonderful. During Mr. McKeown's terrible narration of the details of the Rockwood tragedy, when his clear, sonorous voice rang through the closely packed, heated court room, Higgins sat immovable, gazing at the prosecuting attorney with steady, unflinching gaze.

Meanwhile others in the room were more visibly affected.

When Mr. McKeown took up Mr. Mullin's plea for mercy for his client and, with leveled forefinger beating every word deep into the brains of his hearers, said: "In the name of heaven where was the mercy extended to Doherty, when,

without a minute's time in which to cry to God for his sins, he was hurried into eternity,"—many men involuntarily swallowed a troublesome lump which would keep rising in their throats, and looked towards the prisoner to see how he stood the ordeal. But if he was affected, Higgins gave no sign. He carried the same easy, confident manner that has characterized him since he was first arraigned.

Higgins has spent the greater part of the last few nights in whistling popular airs and playing the concertina. He is an excellent hand at both. Sometimes he whistles and Goodspeed answers him. He has the walls of his cell covered with drawings and scroll work admirably executed. It is reported that he wept for some minutes on Tuesday morning, but the cause of his grief is a matter of surmise only. He does not seem to fear the result of the trial.

The names of the jurymen are as follows: John H. Walker, Sidney Bowden, Robt. Ledingham, Richard Caples, John S. Seaton, W. Hawksley Merritt, John O. Donaldson, John E. Fitzgerald, John A. Pooley, Daniel C. Coles, William Kein, Edward J. Kennedy.

THE LATE CHARLES DENNISON.

An Autopsy on the Body Shows That Death Resulted From Hemorrhage of the Brain.

As already stated in these columns, Coroner Mullin visited Marysville yesterday afternoon, and after making enquiry into the circumstances connected with the sudden death of Charles Dennison at that place Monday night, deemed it advisable to hold an inquest. The following gentlemen were selected by him as jurors: W. T. Day, James Inch, Samuel Hallett, Prof. Cadwallader, Alfred Barker, E. B. Staples and J. J. Libbey. The coroner also decided that a post mortem examination of the body would be necessary to determine the cause of death, and Dr. E. B. Fisher was appointed to perform the same.

The jury viewed the body of the late Mr. Dennison at his home last evening, after which the coroner postponed the enquiry until Monday, October 6th to await the report of Dr. Fisher.

The autopsy on the body was performed last night by Dr. Fisher, who found a clot of blood on the brain, indicating that death had been caused by the rupture of a blood vessel in the head. This is in accord with the opinion expressed by Dr. Fisher yesterday morning.

The funeral of the late Mr. Dennison took place at two p. m. today, and the sympathy felt for the widow and family in their great bereavement, was manifested by a very large attendance. An impressive service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Rideout and interment was made at Marysville. Undertaker John G. Adams had charge of the arrangements.

The reports which have appeared in the St. John papers concerning Mr. Dennison's illness and death are entirely misleading and are most unjust to the members of the bereaved family. The truth about the matter is that Mr. Dennison for several days prior to his death, had been suffering from severe pains in the head and sought relief by using headache powders, but to no purpose. On Monday evening he sent to town by a friend for a small flask of liquor, which was delivered to him about ten o'clock. He took but one drink from the flask, and soon afterwards the pains in his head getting worse, Dr. McNally was called in. When the doctor arrived the patient was unconscious, and detecting the odor of liquor he at once came to the conclusion that the patient was suffering from alcoholism, which was not the case. He did not give him any

medicine or prescribe for him, but expressed the opinion to Mrs. Dennison that her husband would recover in a short time, and that there was no occasion for worry on her part. In less than two hours after the doctor left Mr. Dennison was a corpse. He did not die from the effects of liquor as has been stated, but as the postmortem examination disclosed, his death was caused by hemorrhage of the brain.

The above is a plain statement of the facts of the case and it is only right that the truth should be in possession of the public.

WOODSTOCK EXHIBITION.

Woodstock, Sept. 14:—The exhibition was formally opened this afternoon by Governor Snowball in the presence of a large number of people and promises to be a great success. Other prominent gentlemen present included, Hon. L. P. Farris, J. D. Hazen, M. P. P., and the local members for Carleton.

DR. BARCLAY DECLINES.

Kingston, Ont., Sep. 24.—Rev. Dr. Barclay of Montreal has declined the offer of the trustees of Queen's University that he become principal of that institution.

Genuine Castoria always bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

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