

QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE.

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Sad Fatality.

About half-past eleven Thursday morning news reached St. John that John Runciman of this city had lost his life by drowning at Ormoco. A younger brother, George Runciman, in the employ of Macaulay Bros. & Co., had been away on sick leave for about a month, and a few days ago his condition was such that it was thought better to bring him back to St. John. Accordingly, John Runciman went up to Ormoco and made arrangements for bringing him down on the Victoria Thursday morning.

Seen by a Sun reporter late yesterday afternoon Capt. Starkey gave the following account of the accident: The steamer reached Ormoco about ten o'clock and took on board the passengers and freight from the regular small boat in charge of Mr. Bryson. As this boat was putting off from the steamer, Capt. Starkey noticed another small boat coming out of Ormoco containing three men, one of whom was waving an umbrella in order to attract attention. Capt. Starkey kept the Victoria waiting about ten minutes in order to accommodate the late comers, who were John and George Runciman and a Mr. Simpson, a Boston man boarding at Mrs. Stocker's hotel.

The boat reached the steamer in safety George Runciman was put on board. As he got on board he said "Good bye, boys," and the man at the steps, believing that he was the only passenger, as none of the others had made an attempt to get aboard, rang the bell for the steamer to go ahead, and pushed off the small boat with his foot. As he did so Mr. Simpson, who was in the bow of the boat caught him by the pant leg and pulled the head of the boat in towards the steamer. John Runciman ran forward and jumped on board the Victoria, but fell between the steamer and the small boat.

Mr. Simpson made an attempt to get the small boat near the struggling man, but seemed unable to handle it, so he pluckily jumped overboard in order to save Mr. Runciman. He succeeded in getting hold of him and keeping him afloat for some time, but before they could be reached by the boat which Capt. Starkey had ordered to be lowered, Mr. Simpson was compelled, in order to save his own life, to release himself from Mr. Runciman, and the latter went down to a watery grave. Mr. Simpson was rescued in an exhausted condition.

The Victoria was kept in waiting until the captain saw that he could be of no further use, and he proceeded to St. John.

John Runciman, the victim of the tragedy, was a young man of about twenty-six years of age, and well known in St. John. For some time past he has kept a dry goods store on the corner of Duke and Charlotte streets. He was a son of William Runciman of St. Andrews street, and he had several brothers and sisters to mourn their loss. The deceased was connected with the Union Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and is the second member of this lodge to meet death by drowning on the river within a week.—Sun.

The body of John Runciman was recovered on Friday morning and was taken to St. John for interment.

Inquest at Ormoco.

Ormoco, July 29.—The feeling here against the Star Line Co. because of the drowning of John Runciman on Thursday last is very intense. Eye witnesses of the sad occurrence blame the steambot officials for the fatality, but possibly when the full facts become known a different opinion may prevail. The body of the deceased was conveyed from here to Wasias Station yesterday afternoon and placed upon the C. P. R. train and forwarded to his home at St. John. Mr. W. Runciman, the father of the deceased, is here, as is also his brother George. Mr. Daniel Mullin, a St. John lawyer, is present to represent the family of Mr. Runciman at the inquest and Mr. Arthur A. Slipp is representing the Steamship Company.

It was nearly ten o'clock when the inquest began and it is expected that it will take two or three days to complete it. Capt. Starkey of the Victoria and some of the men from the steamer are here to give evidence and about all the men in the neighborhood are present and watching the proceedings with keenest interest.

A rather dramatic scene ensued when the aged and gray haired father of the young man who was drowned accusing the captain of wilfully allowing his son to drown and calling down upon him the vengeance of the Almighty.

Mr. Simpson intended leaving this morning for his home at Boston, but willingly consented to remain behind to tell to the jury what he knew of the sad occurrence. His brave attempt to rescue the drowning man has made him a hero in the opinion of everybody here.

The jury are John W. Gilmour, foreman; David Morrow, Frank Cogswell, Chas. Ward, H. H. Kimble, Chas. White and LeBarron Wilmut.

Dr. Peake of Ormoco was the first witness to testify.

The doctor stated that he viewed the remains of the late Mr. Runciman near the Ormoco wharf on Friday morning between 10 and 11 o'clock. He held an autopsy but concluded that the deceased had come to his death from drowning. He observed that the deceased was frothing at the mouth and nostrils, a symptom of drowning, and that the limbs were in a peculiar position which indicated that the deceased had exercised extreme muscular exertion immediately before death often noticeable in cases of death by drowning. He gave Mr. Robt. Strain a certificate to the effect that the deceased had not died from a contagious or infectious disease as required by the Board of Health so that the body might be transferred by railway.

Mr. Oliver P. Simpson of Boston was the next witness called. He is Boston manager of the banking and bookkeeping firm of Joshua Brown & Co. He was merely spending his vacation here. Came here one week ago last Thursday and is boarding at the Riverside Hotel. He met the deceased John Runciman first on Tuesday night last, when he arrived here from the train. He and Mr. Runciman were together much of the following day, when the latter informed him (Simpson) that his purpose in coming to Ormoco, was to accompany his brother George to his home at St. John, the latter being ill. Because of this illness it had been decided to go to the wharf in a buggy, the expectation as expressed at the time being to go aboard the steamer from the wharf and when they were about leaving the hotel Mrs. Stocker called their attention to the fact that the small boat which usually attends the steamer in the stream had already left the wharf. She suggested to them that they immediately go to the steamer in the row boat which was in the river opposite the hotel. George Runciman, John Runciman and himself went in the boat as advised by Mrs. Stocker, he going for the purpose of bringing the boat back. They hailed the steamer and the officials called to them repeatedly to hurry up. They approached the steamer and a deck hand who was standing on the steps caught the boat and brought her alongside of the steamer. Mr. George Runciman stepped aboard her and Mr. John Runciman attempted to pass the witness as he ran up the steps for the purpose of going on board. The deck hand still remained upon the step and Mr. John Runciman stepped from the row boat to the steps on the steamer which had at that time just begun to move. The witness noted that Mr. Runciman had two overcoats thrown over his right arm and with his left hand clutched the rope leading down the side of the steps. His left foot was at that moment on the lower step and seemed to the witness partly in the water. The wash from the paddle wheel came strongly against the step and the witness noted that Mr. Runciman had lost his foot hold but still clutched the rope. He seemed to be torn from his hold upon the rope by the back wash from the paddle wheel and in a moment was struggling in the water. The row boat was obstructed by the waves and drifted stern with the deceased. The witness attempted to reach him with the boat before he disappeared but he went beneath the surface before the witness was near enough to reach him.

The witness saw Runciman struggling in the water seemingly five feet beneath the surface. The witness thought that he was five or six feet away from the man in the water. He took off his hat and coat and made a dive for Mr. Runciman. The witness is a strong swimmer and usually cool and collected in times of excitement. He reached the deceased and grasped him by the shoulder. Runciman grasped him with both arms about the neck. They came to the surface when the witness forced Runciman's hold from around his neck, but he then clutched his arm. He spoke to him saying breathe deep, and he replied yes. The witness was treading water and could not release his arm to enable him to swim. He was forced to break Runciman's hold from one arm in order to prevent them both sinking. His first thought was to reach the steamer which had at that time stopped and as he thought started to back up to where they were struggling in the water. He thought that they were at this time not more than 100 feet from the stern of the steamer. He could see an attempt being made to launch a boat from the side of the steamer but they had by that time reached the side of the steamer. He held Runciman up as well as possible but could feel his hold gradually relaxing and felt him clutching at his legs as he went down. The boat from the steamer had by this time been launched and someone in the boat hauled him in. He asked the two men in the boat if they got the man and one of them replied yes. He was then helped aboard the steamer but received no attention whatever from the officials of the steamer. He spoke to Geo. Runciman saying that it was all right, that they reached his brother. No person gave him any attention except a passenger whom he has since learned was

Mr. Elliott of Fredericton, with a lady whom he had been told was Mrs. Elliott. They attended George Runciman while he made repeated requests to the pursor to put him ashore at Ormoco, as he was wet and felt that he needed at least civil attention, but was told by the pursor that he would put him ashore at Maugeville. Mr. Elliott assisted him, and procured from the steward of the boat a drink of brandy which he, the witness, drank. He was put ashore at Maugeville, and got a boatman to row him back to Ormoco, the boatman being Mr. Wm. Bent, who is now present. To a juror, the witness said that the deck hand used only his foot to draw his row-boat alongside of the steamer. At the time Runciman was clinging to the hand line on the step the witness said that there were two deck hands on the step above the other and the lower deck hand could easily have reached Mr. Runciman's arm but did not do so. He received no attention whatever from the deck hands. No life buoys, life belts, lines or anything else were thrown to them from the steamer, while they were struggling in the water. In the opinion of the witness the cause of Runciman's falling in the water was the too quick starting of the steamer, the back wash washing him off. He did not find out that Runciman had not been seen until told so on the wharf at Maugeville.

The witness said that he judged that the steamer went ahead about 150 feet and backed up towards them when they were in the water about 80 feet. He made the rest of the distance to the side of the steamer himself assisted by the current. He was practically exhausted when pulled into the steamer. He was faintly assisted on board the steamer by deck hands, being so exhausted that he could not hold himself. After he reached the deck no attention whatever was paid him by officials or men connected with the steamer. The only officials he saw were the pursor, engineer and steward. No person connected with the steamer volunteered to give him a stimulant and the only stimulant he had was that obtained from the steward and at the latter's request.

Mr. Simpson was subjected to a rigid examination by Mr. Mullin and was under examination when adjournment was made for dinner at one o'clock. At 2 p. m. the inquest was resumed. Mr. Mullin resumed his cross-examination. The witness said that it was from three to five minutes after Runciman fell into the water before he jumped in after him, and Runciman kept afloat about half of that time and he would judge that he, the witness, was in the water about 8 minutes, and during that time nothing was thrown either to Runciman or himself from the steamer.

Mr. Mullin here prepared to introduce the interview with Capt. Starkey as published in the St. John Sun on Friday morning last, but was objected to by Mr. Slipp and the objection sustained by the coroner after a lengthy argument by counsel.

Juryman Morrow asked, is the statement published in the Sun and attributed to Capt. Starkey, that George Runciman said "good-bye boy," was true, and the witness said that he heard nothing of the kind.

After Mr. Simpson concluded his evidence he left for Boston, going to Wasias to take the C. P. R. express.

The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday morning at 9.30 o'clock.

Nicaraguan Canal.

NEW ORLEANS, July 27.—Senator Luis F. Cures, minister of Nicaragua, has reached New Orleans, and will remain here a day or two before leaving for Washington. In coming to the United States Senator Cures is charged particularly with facilitating the building of the Nicaraguan canal.

Notwithstanding the fact that the governmental report has given the promise of concession to the Rice-Orin syndicate, declared Senator Cures, Nicaragua will make no objection to treating directly with the United States regarding the canal if the United States would undertake to settle the differences between the conflicting interests.

Four Negroes Hanged.

ALTIMORE, July 28. Four negroes, Cephus Gardner, John Meyers, Charles James, and Joseph Bryan, were hanged on the jail yard today. The trap was set at 9.40. Cornelius Gardner, Charles James and John Meyers were convicted of criminally assaulting Annie Bay, colored, 13 years of age, at her home on Vine street. The crime was particularly revolting. Jos. Bryan was convicted of murder on April 23 last of his common law wife, Maggie Pack, colored.

Gold and Bonds.

It is quite true that it is well to have a supply of gold, or bonds on hand but after worldly riches cannot compare with good health. Women who have pale and sawy complexions, and whose systems will run down can find no such blood purifier and blood purifier as the old reliable English remedy, Cook's New Blood Pills. Price 50 cents per box, sold by all dealers.

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5% DISCOUNT 5%

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Buy Your New Dress at the New Store

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FANCY MIXTURES, PLAIDS, ETC.
at 15c, 17c, 18c, 22c, 25c, 27c, 30c., to 85c. per yard.

PLAIN COLORES
at 20c, 22c, 25c, 30c., to \$1.00 per yard.

BLACK DRESS GOODS
This is one of our special departments, we can show you a very large variety of Trapes, Figured Laines, Plain Laines, Toplins, Capis, Tullis, Serges, Henrietta, Cashmere, Marino, Etc., at 20c, 22c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 55c, 75c., to \$2.50 per yard.

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SPECIAL SALE
of Prints, Ginghams, Muslins, Etc., now on ranging in price from 5c. to 30c. per yard.

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25 cents,
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40 cents,
Per Pound.

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ST. JOHN MARKET REPORTS,

WHOLESALE.

Corrected to July 29th.
Beef (Butcher's) per carcass \$0 07 to \$0 09
Beef (Country) per quarter 0 24 " 0 05
Lamb per carcass 1 50 " 4 00
Pork, fresh, per carcass 0 50 " 0 06
Eggs, per pair 0 50 " 0 09
Shoulders, smoked, per lb. 0 07 " 0 09
Hams, " " 0 10 " 0 14
Apples per bbl. 2 00 " 5 00
Butter (in tubs) per lb. 0 12 " 0 14
Butter (in lumps) " " 0 12 " 0 14
Butter (creamers) " " 0 16 " 0 17
Pork (rolls) 0 14 " 0 16
Eggs, per pair 0 50 " 0 09
Chickens, per pair 0 50 " 0 80
Turkey per lb. 0 10 " 0 14
Ducks, per pair 0 50 " 0 80
Geese, " " 0 70 " 0 90
Eggs, per doz. 0 11 " 0 12
Cabbage per doz. 0 90 " 1 00
Mutton, per lb, carcass 0 06 " 0 10
Potatoes per bbl. 1 00 " 1 50
Squash per lb. 0 03 " 0 05
Radish per doz. 0 25 " 0 30
Turnips per bbl. 0 45 " 0 60
Calf skin, per pair 0 08 " 0 10
Lamb skins, " " 0 50 " 0 70
Hides, per lb. 0 07 " 0 08
Beans per bus. yellow eye 1 90 " 2 00
Beans per bus. white 1 90 " 2 00
Carrots per bbl. 0 80 " 1 00
Cheese per lb. 0 08 " 0 09
Maple sugar per lb. 0 10 " 0 12
Beets per bbl. 0 75 " 0 80
Tomatoes 30 lb box 0 40 " 0 50
Celery per doz. 0 90 " 0 00
" syrup per gal. 0 80 " 1 00
Blue Berries per pail 0 00 " 0 00
Black Duck per pair 0 00 " 0 00
Squash per cwt. 0 80 " 0 00
Corn per doz. 0 00 " 0 00
Currants box 0 00 " 0 00
Peas, green, per bush 0 00 " 0 00

ST. JOHN MARKET FEES.

Beef per quarter, four cents.
Hogs of two hundred pounds or under, five cents, each additional hundred pounds, one cent.
Sheep, lamb, goat or veal, per carcass, each four cents.
Butter in tub, jar, pail or firkin, of ten pounds and under, two cents; every additional ten pounds or division thereof, one cent.
Butter in rolls and lard in cakes, for every ten pounds or under two cents.
Tallow for every ten pounds or under, one cent.
Cheese for every ten pounds or under, one cent.
Potatoes per one hundred pounds, two cents.
Turnip per one hundred pounds, one cent.
Oysters in tub or other vessels per gallon, two cents.
Oysters in shell per bushel, two cents.
Turkey each, one cent.
Geese each, one cent.
Pigeons per dozen, one cent.
Partridges, fowl or ducks per pair, one cent.
Flour or meal per one hundred pounds, two cents.

PAILS!

QUARTER One Half
HALF Regular
LARGE Price.

Upwards of fifty dozen to sell—above offer only as long as the lot lasts.

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Prices and Quality Guaranteed.

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