

MURDERER SAYS THAT HE HAS NO MONEY AND NO FRIENDS

Life Convict Barrett Conducts Cross Examination of all the Witnesses at His Preliminary Hearing for the Murder of Richard H. Stedman. His Plea is That He Was Refused a Doctor Though Ill all the Time. But For Warden McCauley He Would Have Had Axe in Hand.

"I was sick all the time; I could not walk because of shortness of breath, and I was never allowed by the deputy warden to see the doctor; I was sharpening an axe and the deputy warden came into the carpenter shop; he sneered at me and I was so aggravated that I did not want to see the doctor."

In these words at his preliminary hearing at the Edmonton penitentiary on Saturday afternoon was Life Convict Gary R. Barrett telling his story simply of the murder of Richard H. Stedman, when he was stopped by Magistrate Cowan, who warned him that what he said was being taken down and might be used against him at his trial.

"It is nothing but the truth," was the reply. The hearing of the evidence at the preliminary hearing was conducted with closed doors in the guard-room of the Edmonton penitentiary. There were none present but those conducting the trial, the guards, witnesses and representatives of the press. Crown Prosecutor Cogswell represented the Crown and no lawyer was present for the defence.

The convict Barrett, twice a murderer, now serving a life sentence for the shooting of his 12-year-old stepson in Prince Albert, has been closely guarded since the awful deed of April 15th. The result of his confinement has told upon him, and he appeared on Saturday with pale and attenuated face. As the hearing progressed his muscles twitched and he occasionally fingered his prison cap to conceal his nervousness.

Barrett is a man of medium height and 55 years of age. He is clean shaven and is slightly stooped. A prominent forehead and a full head on top, coming down to much smaller size below the ears, does not show any sign of abnormality, nor does it indicate that he possesses the traits that make him guilty of the terrible record which he has established.

He took a keen interest in the trial and cross-examined all the witnesses at some length. His defence, if it were to be, is outlined in his opening words as quoted above. During his questioning of the witnesses he spoke in a low voice and appeared to be slightly deaf. No action of his during the hearing betrayed the brutal nature he has shown, but all the time he was in the guard-room he was closely watched by the prison officials who knew him best, and any threatening movement would have resulted in instant seizure. As he conducted his cross-examination from all of the witnesses who knew anything of his case he secured the admission that he had been complaining of illness with a fever, but had not been allowed to see the physician.

Magistrate Cowan asked, after Barrett had been brought in and given a chair. "If there is anything I should do to prepare for the trial I would like to know," was the reply in a scarcely audible voice. "Have you got counsel?" the magistrate inquired. "I have no lawyer, but I would like to get one."

"Are you able to pay for a lawyer? Have you any friends who will provide one?" "I have no friends; I have no money; all I had I have lost to that woman who kept me here," was the answer. The magistrate stated that at the trial a lawyer would be assigned by the judge to defend the case.

The first witness called was Warden McCauley. He told of being summoned from his office by Instructor Pope, who told him that the Deputy Warden had been hit by an axe. When he went to the carpenter shop he found Stedman on the floor, being looked after by two of the convicts. While the witness was passing Barrett, the latter said: "I wouldn't have done it if he had let me see the doctor."

"I don't remember." "You remember I told you I had to get the guard to get corn meal mush to put on my chest?" "I remember you telling me something like that."

The Coroner's Evidence. Dr. Alex. Forin, coroner at the inquest and penitentiary physician, told of being called and reaching the penitentiary at 10:50 on the morning of the murder. He found the deputy warden dead, with a wound on the back of his head. He held an inquest and had Drs. Hislop and Biggar make the post-mortem examination.

Magistrate Cowan: "I want to inform you again that you should not make those statements in your own defence at this time." "All right, sir, thank you, I won't say anything if you think I have said anything I oughtn't to say. Of course, I am telling no lie."

Frank Pope, instructor in the carpenter shop, told of Deputy Warden Stedman coming into the shop at 10:23. He went to the where the witness was seated and the latter showed him a chair he had fixed. A moment later he heard a dull thud and saw No. 135, the prisoner, withdrawing an axe and going back to the place where he was when the deputy warden came in. Witness shouted to No. 135 to put down the axe and he replied: "I won't hurt you, Mr. Pope. The convicts ran up to help him lift up Mr. Stedman, and then he rushed away to tell the warden, telling the convicts to take care of the injured man."

Besides Nos. 135, there were in the room Nos. 163, 44, 101 and 144. When he came back the deputy warden was laid on a bench, but expired as he was being removed to the hospital day ward. Cogswell then removed the prisoner to the cell block. Barrett continues to examine. Barrett being asked if he had any questions, again rose and inquired: "Didn't you know I said I was sick all the time?"

"Yes." "And you wanted the doctor?" "Yes." "And I couldn't get him?" "You could see him by reporting sick and being placed on the sick list."

"Do you remember that I was brought to the hospital, and any threatening movement would have resulted in instant seizure. As he conducted his cross-examination from all of the witnesses who knew anything of his case he secured the admission that he had been complaining of illness with a fever, but had not been allowed to see the physician."

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DECK OF TRANSPORT MODERN MONTE CARLO

Stenleigh Megargee, Corporal on Board United States Transport, Says That He Has Won \$100,000 in Crooked Games—Even the Cook Gets a Rake-off.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 27.—Stenleigh Megargee, son of M. W. Megargee, and formerly one of the best horsemen and steeplechasers in the country, now a cavalry man in troop Twelfth Regiment, declares there is graft on the United States transports. In a letter written on board a transport, which carried troops from San Francisco to Manila, Mr. Megargee, who is a corporal, says there is gambling, and charges that even the steward of the enlisted men is in part the letter says:

"After starting, the men were notified that whisky could be purchased from the steward of the enlisted men at \$2.50 a quart, making him a profit of approximately 300 per cent. It was while staff. The deck was cleared each night and a modern Monte Carlo sprang up. Any game could be played, and all were backed by the petty officers of the ship. The games ran from twilight till morning and \$10,000 were bet on a reasonable estimate of the amount drawn in by the bankers. Few of the games were straight. The ship's baker sold pies at one cent a piece, the ingredients of which were charged against the soldiers' general mess and did not cost him a penny."

Will Camp in Calgary. 19th A.M.R. Will Join Brigade Camp in Calgary from June 29th to July 10th.

FED THE BABY TO THE HOGGE. Negro Boy Then Wounded His Brother and Sister with an Axe.

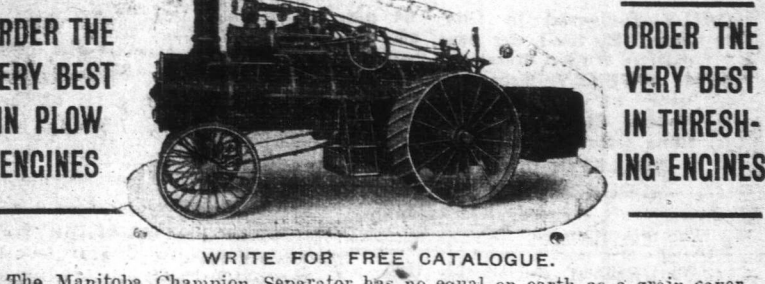
WANTED TO CELEBRATE. Canadian Raised Union Jack at Pittsfield, Mass.—Nearly a Riot.

BRYAN READY TO RUN AGAIN. Is Not Retiring From Politics—Hopes Party Won't Need Him Next Time.

NEW JUDGE IN MANITOBA. Judge Cameron Will Succeed Justice Phippen.

INSANITY MAY BE BARRETT'S DEFENCE. Wilfrid Gariepy will undertake the defence of Gary R. Barrett, whose trial for the murder of Deputy Warden Stedman will take place at the Supreme court session, which opens next Tuesday. Mr. Gariepy has not yet outlined what form his defence will take, but it is possible that he may set up a plea that the act of Barrett was committed during a period of temporary insanity. He is now securing information from Prince Albert and other points in connection with the past history of the convict. Barrett's trial will be held before Chief Justice Sifton, and a jury. Justice Sifton says he has not yet received any instructions from Ottawa as to the case, but in the absence of such will follow the regular course in connection with the trial.

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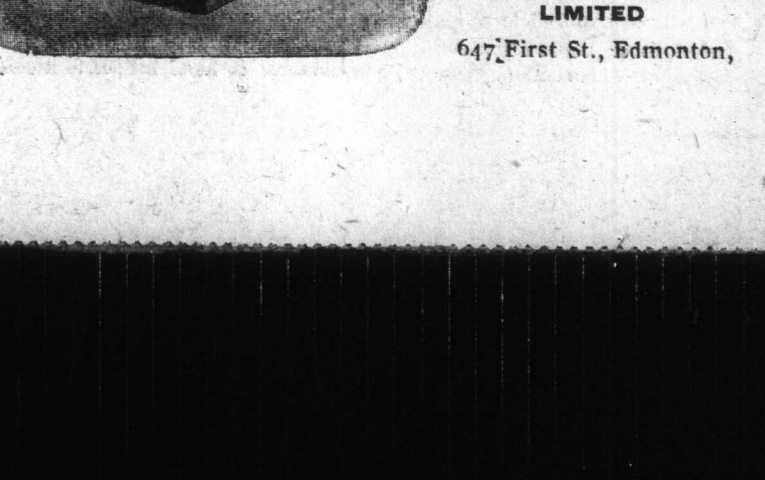
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