

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1906.

INQUIRY ORDERED INTO  
LOST CREAMER CHILDREN

(By a Member of The Telegraph Staff.)  
Cape Tormentine, N. B., May 18.—(Special)—Acting under instructions from Sheriff McQueen, of Dorchester, who will be here tomorrow afternoon, an investigation into the disappearance of the Creamer children was begun this afternoon by Magistrate Riley. He interrogated the Tremholm and Creamer families, led a small search party into the woods, will renew his efforts tomorrow and in the absence of developments, will summon for a search on Sunday practically every man in the community.

The fear that there may have been foul play does not lessen. Geneva Creamer stands by what she told yesterday. She tells a simple, straightforward narrative. Russell Tremholm is positive that he is right and that consequently she is wrong.

## Face to Face.

Together this afternoon in the leafy spot, where Geneva avers she last saw her brother and sister, the two faced another. Her father, Magistrate Riley, Mr. Allen of Bayfield, and a Telegraph reporter were the others present.

"You know we came right here," said Geneva, her small arm hung part way around the tree, "and that after I turned to go back home you started up there with Ollie and Ralph just behind you." She was pointing in the direction of where the woods stretched for many miles. "I turned round after I started for home," she continued, "and watched you walk up that way."

Magistrate Riley cross-questioned the girl but did not confuse her. She was composed, clear-headed and without doubt as to the accuracy of her story.

## Feels His Position.

Tremholm feels his position. He says that it is because he fears the people he has known since childhood may seek to incriminate him. He maintains that the children are never found and the fact of their disappearance remains without solution his neighbors will regard with suspicion. This he feels, will be most unjust.

Tremholm was born in Penobscot Settlement and has never been from the confines of the county. The people of the settlement from the social standpoint are not unlike one large family. Russell was welcome anywhere at any hour, and presumably under any circumstances. He was regarded, and is yet to a large extent, as a good-hearted, inoffensive and industrious lad. His father died about ten months ago. Besides the mother, there are a sister and six brothers. All live together and, with the exception of Russell and his sister, are engaged in fishing and farming. Russell does the chores about home. The whole family bear a good reputation and there are many of the name in this section of the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Creamer have been married twelve years. As the stories grow out of the disappearance multiply they seem to decrease in reliability. To trace one to its source is like trying to nail down a shadow.

The Creamers enjoy the respect of the community. Since their home has been so cruelly desolated sympathy and assistance have been coming in from all sections. Of the parents, the father is perhaps the most demonstrative in his grief. The mother is calm and this afternoon discussed her loss without visible emotion.

"I feel that they are dead," she said, "so why should I break down when they are past all suffering."

## Ollie's Complaint.

The mother was asked if she could recall the exact words Ollie had said when she came in complaining of the action of a man living in the neighborhood.

"I remember every word," said Mrs. Creamer. "I can't recall the day, but it was in the afternoon, last week. Ollie came in from the yard and over to where I was sitting. I thought she looked troubled, but there was no sign that she had been crying. Presently she said, 'Mamma, — is a dirty brute.' I asked her what she meant by that and she said because he had just tried to take liberties with her. She repeated the child's exact words as she recalled them. The incident might mean much or nothing.

This morning Mr. Creamer again traversed the woods in the rear of the house. Nothing was found. This afternoon Geneva accompanied by her father and a few others went over to the scene of the disappearance. To the right of the house, about fifty yards, is a half-acre field, one side is the road and on the opposite side the fence which runs parallel with the edge of the forest. About twenty yards from the fence is the brook which enters the field under a bridge across the road. It passes under the fence within close view of the Creamer barn and flows on through the woods for perhaps a quarter of a mile, when it emerges on the marsh.

Over the fence on the side that the children crossed are two distinct paths leading straight on. One is between small spruce and the other, perhaps a dozen paces to the right, is through heavier timber.

## Trenholm's Stories Vary.

Russell alleges that he crossed the fence, took the latter path and that when he had gone about forty paces looked back and saw the children, whom he had been hidden to follow, in close pursuit. He told them to go back. Yesterday he said that he saw them get over the fence. Today he said he did not see them do so. With this exception the rest of what he told this afternoon is but a repetition.

Geneva led the little party this afternoon to the fence and pointing out the path to the left said it was along there that all had walked, Tremholm in advance. She tripped lightly along then suddenly turned to the right and running to the tree stumps and mouldering log, told what she knew.

## Smiled at Geneva's Story.

Later in the afternoon Tremholm was brought over to the wood and he heard Geneva's story. He smiled now and then and would keep constantly fumbling with a piece of wood. He never interrupted. With his gaze on the ground, smiling faintly and twisting the stick, he just listened.

"Well, Russell, what do you say?" asked one when Geneva had finished. "I never went up there with the children. I never asked Ollie to go with me. We didn't come along the path to the left and didn't come this depth into the woods. I never did what Geneva says."

The distance from where all were grouped to the fence is seventy paces. Tremholm says that all were not more than a little over half that distance and that they were on the path to the right. From the Creamer house to the home of Tremholm's grandmother at the corner of the branch road on which stands the Tremholm and Creamer houses, is slightly over a quarter of a mile. Tremholm says that when he crossed over into the field where Ollie, Ralph and Geneva were picking violets his sister, Belle, and two brothers were walking briskly down the road on the way to their grand-

mother's. He says it was his intention to travel along through the woods looking for the cows and join his sister before she reached her destination.

Trenholm, this afternoon, was asked to go over the same ground. He cheerfully acceded. The route led through the woods bringing the harrowed ground and marsh off to the left. Then it swerved into a swampy tract, then twisted to the left and came out on the marsh. From here Tremholm pointed to a clump of woods about 100 yards distant. The woods were possibly an acre in circumference.

## Trenholm's Sunday Stroll.

"And I went out around there," he said, "then came back across the marsh up into the woods again, and then off across the fields for the road to grandmother's house for I saw my sister and brothers walking along it. We right at their back when they entered the house."

The distance traveled is a good half mile. The ground is swampy and rough. The distance from the Creamer house to Tremholm's grandmother's house is under a quarter of a mile. The ground is level and comparatively smooth. Tremholm says that when he last saw his sister and brothers they were walking smartly past the Creamer house. Nobody can be found who saw them stopping or loitering by the way. In the opinion of not a few Tremholm must have traveled with unusual rapidity in order to have overtaken the others.

He was asked if he was always so swift in his movements when seeking the cattle. He said that sometimes he hurried.

## Stories Differ.

His sister Belle and the brothers allege that Russell overtook them near their destination.

The grandmother says that all came in together.

The sister asserts that as she walked by the Creamer house she saw Russell with a child over the fence from the side on which he stood, then vanish behind the trees.

Trenholm says that shortly after his arrival he saw his three cows come out of the woods in the rear of his home about half a mile away. He admits that he left first to look for them he searched in those woods.

He was about to leave for the purpose of milking them when Geneva arrived with the news that her sister and brother were lost. Russell says that he at once left to assist in the search. After about an hour spent he went to his barn and milked two of the cows and returned and the searchers. He is positive that he milked the cows in five minutes.

## Little Footprints Found.

Since the first search five little footprints have been found. On the west side of the fence about ten feet from where the children crossed over were the prints of two small boots. The impressions were close together and were found but a few hours after the children were missing. Sunday forenoon there was a slight shower and the ground was soft.

On Monday morning last, the Telegraph reporter was informed this afternoon, the print of three little feet were found not far from the edge of a clearing about 1,000 yards back from the Creamer home. The locality was visited late this afternoon but the ground where the footprints had been seen was disturbed. There were the tracks of other feet, for upwards of 100 men went across and around the clearing early in the week.

One of the men who was the first to notice the tiny footprints said that one impression in particular was very plain. The heel had sunk into the mud, and as if the child had been standing still. The three footprints were one behind the other. The spot was minutely examined after this afternoon and once more the clearing and surrounding swamps hunted over, but there was no sign, no trace.

## Wild Animal Theory Scouted.

The wild animal theory is scouted. Magistrate Riley is indisputable. Early this afternoon he received a telephone message from Sheriff McQueen informing him that Solicitor-General Jones had ordered an investigation. The sheriff said that pending his arrival the magistrate could act as his deputy and acting upon this the latter left at once for the Creamer home. He examined the woods between the house and the clearing, the brook and marsh, cross-questioned Geneva and Tremholm, visited the Tremholm house, examined the premises and also made an examination of the Creamer outbuildings for some possible trace.

The conjecture that the children fell into the brook was weakened by the fact that a heavy brush fence is built across the stream before it enters the marsh. If the babies did drown it is in the possibility that they would have drifted through the fence.

## Magistrate Puzzled.

Magistrate Riley informed The Telegraph that as yet he had not arrived at any conclusion. He says that he is perplexed to know how Tremholm covered the half mile of swamp and forest and arrived on the branch road time to intercept his sister and brother. He says that he is unable to understand how the children could wander to the clearing through such treacherous tract of woodland. Upon his return home this evening he telephoned to Sheriff McQueen, told what had been done and was assured by the sheriff that he would arrive the following afternoon.

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The Scots Company of the Boys' Brigade, accompanied by a piper and drummer, made a tour through the city last evening under the command of Colonel Buchanan. Thirty-five of the young soldiers turned out and presented a very smart appearance. On conclusion of the march the company lined up in Kings street east and gave an exhibition of physical and company drill and went through other manoeuvres before a large number of admiring spectators.

W. E. Skillen, of St. Martins, was at the Royal yesterday.

LAST OF THE BRITISH  
TROOPS LEAVE CANADA

Victoria, B. C., May 18.—Echoes of the bugle sounding in "Last Post" at 7 o'clock yesterday morning at Work Point barracks accentuated the severance of the imperial military control of Canada when the Royal Engineers and garrison to the number of 250, embarked on the steamer Charmer en route for Vancouver and Merrimack. The departing troops received a cordial farewell, hundreds of Victorians with the Fifth Regiment of Canadian Artillery turning out in the chill of the morning to give parting cheers. The band played Auld Lang Syne and The Girl I Left Behind Me as the steamer

drew into the misty straits and the last sight of the British troops in Canada merged into a quivering picture of waving caps and handkerchiefs.

The forty hours' devotion in the Church of St. Joachim at Silver Hills began yesterday morning at 7.30. The exercises last evening consisted of the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and a sermon preached by very Rev. W. F. Chapman, V. G. The service will be brought to a close Sunday evening at 7.30, when the sermon will be preached by his lordship Bishop Casey.

The Loyalist Society will attend service at 7 o'clock Sunday evening in Trinity church. Rev. Dr. W. O. Raymond will preach.

## Half-Sick

When your nerves are weak, when you are easily tired, when you feel all run down, then is the time you need a good strong tonic—Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Your doctor will tell you why it has such power over weak nerves, why it makes the blood rich, and why it gives courage and strength. Ask him if it is not just the medicine you need.

Police.—"Don't get gay there, young fellows. I have a mind to run you in." Intoxicated Student.—"Pardon me, took you for a jump-squid."