

CRIMINAL ASSAULT WAS CHARGED.

Sensational Episode Enacted in the Police Court Tuesday.

Well-Known Young Citizen the Defendant—Fully Exonerated—Complainant's Story Held to Be Improbable.

A sensational trial, involving the charge of attempted rape, was conducted before Colonel Steele and behind closed doors on Tuesday afternoon. The complainant was Mrs. J. A. Prideaux, who lives back of St. Mary's church, while the alleged would-be robber of her honor was Peter Annance, the well known proprietor of the Dome road house. The complainant is a young and very pretty woman, and all the parties in the case are people of culture. Mr. Prideaux conducted the case for the prosecution, but Mr. Annance was represented by Attorney Miller.

Mrs. Prideaux was the first witness and told the following story: Some time in June, in accordance with arrangements previously made, she went to the Dome road house with Mr. Annance to do the cooking. She slept in a tent adjoining the house, and about twelve o'clock on the night of the 25th she was awakened to find Mr. Annance in the tent with only his night clothes on. He attempted to get into bed with her, but she screamed and told him to go out, which he did after asking her not to make a noise that would reach his wife. The next morning she quit her position and returned to town. Before leaving the tent, she said, Annance threatened to visit her in town and accomplish his design. On July 12 following, Annance did call at the house, she continued, and made an insulting proposal to her, which she spurned and threatened to tell her husband. Annance replied that he wasn't afraid of her husband; that he intended to do away with both him and his wife, anyway. He was very rude, but finally went away.

Then witness came down to the alleged episode on which the arrest was based. On July 19 she testified, Annance entered her home without knocking and announcing the purpose of his presence, grabbed hold of her arms and forced her upon the bed. She struggled with all her might, pulling his hair, and finally struck him on the face. She then broke loose and ran to the summer kitchen for safety. He did not follow, and she gave him a tongue lashing, interjecting the threat of a report. Annance told her it would do no good, as he stood in with the officials and could fix things with Colonel Steele with a bottle of whiskey. He also repeated his purpose of doing away with her husband and his own wife in order to secure the complainant. She was greatly frightened over the episode and was confined to her bed. She had told her husband of the occurrence on the dome, but kept him from proceeding against Annance; after the third affair she wanted him prosecuted herself. On cross examination by counsel for defendant, she told of her residence and certain experiences on the trail, the purpose being to discredit her reliability.

Mr. Annance told of first meeting complainant in a hotel at Bennett, where he drank with her another woman. He next met her at her home in this city during the spring, and was introduced to her husband. He next met her in June, when he accompanied her to the road house. On the 25th, he testified, he walked from Dawson to the dome, arriving there about 9 o'clock. He was very tired and, after supper, retired. He was sure he never left his bed during the night, and was not sure that he saw Mrs. Prideaux at all until the next day. He denied emphatically the whole story of the episode said to have occurred in the tent. Next morning he found his wife doing the work which Mrs. Prideaux had been engaged to do, and as Mrs. Prideaux did not seem inclined to work he discharged her, paying her off on the spot.

Witness denied seeing Mrs. Prideaux on the 12th, but on the 19th he stopped at her door and told her the pack train had brought her luggage to town. She asked why it was not brought to the house, and he said there was a charge of \$10.75 against it. "You must pay for you," she said, whereupon witness left. He denied the story of the assault in toto, and said he wasn't in the house. He then told Mr. Prideaux had called at the pack train office, told witness he had insulted his wife and challenged him to fight. Witness accepted the challenge, but violence was avoided. Mrs. Annance corroborated her husband's testimony about his return home on the night of the 25th and of his retiring. She slept with him and was positive he never left the bed all night, besides which, if there had been any noise whatever, in the tent she would have heard of it. She testified further that Mrs. Prideaux had been ill for some days before and that she was doing her work to help her out; this Mr. Annance objected to and discharged Mrs. Prideaux.

Mrs. Prideaux was recalled by her husband and produced a gold shirt stud which she claimed she found in her bed room after her struggle with Annance and which she believed was dropped by him. Mr. Prideaux believed the button was going to fix Annance's guilt conclusively and demanded that the defendant compare it with the other buttons on his person. This Mr. Annance did, taking off all his buttons and laying them on the table before the court; none of them resembled the button in evidence, and Mr. Annance said he never owned it or a button like it.

Much testimony was taken relative to the charge of \$10.75 for bringing Mrs. Prideaux's effects to town, and counsel, in his argument, contended that this was the animus of the prosecution, and that the case was one of extortion and blackmail, besides which the whole theory of the prosecution appeared improbable.

Colonel Steele said he agreed with the counsel that the story of the complainant was improbable. He could not believe many of Mrs. Prideaux's statements, among them the one connecting his name with liquor, because it is something which he never touches, and no man would willingly accuse him of the contrary. This was evidently intended as an intimation to Mrs. Prideaux that the court considered she had made the statement about him with a view of prejudicing him against Annance. The court concluded his remarks by dismissing the case.

The Monte Carlo. The Monte Carlo theater set a good pace for the week on Monday night. John Mulligan has a new skill entitled "Yip, Yaw and Yen" for a first part that shows more than the usual amount of care and has some very laughable

incidents. The specialty work is very strong, and the show throughout is quite satisfactory. The Monte Carlo's management are never satisfied unless they give the best show in town.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

The steamer Yukoner was all in readiness to depart for St. Michael on Saturday night, when she was "fired up" at the instance of her late master, Captain Morine, and Mate Walker, who claim to have several thousand dollars in wages due them.

The Canadian Development Co. have commenced work on the construction of a wharf at the water front, abutting on Third street. They will also build at once a customs store-house for bonded goods, to be 35x72 feet in dimensions, and later on a general warehouse, 80x90 feet in dimensions, will be constructed.

A small but daring robbery occurred at an early hour Thursday morning at Juneau Joe's restaurant on Front street, when some unknown person, taking advantage of the presence in the kitchen of the two waiters, entered the dining room by a side door unobserved and carried off the contents of the till, amounting to nearly \$100.

ED. MCCONNELL AND CRANE.

Concluded from last page.

enforced without evidence by decisions made up before the trial, with judges sitting upon cases in which they are personally interested, to satisfy private grudges, are worse than mob law. And if you desire and expect the citizen to respect your position among them you must give them honest and impartial trials. See this man go.

Motion overruled. The Court—Defendant guilty, and his honor started to leave the room with his books under his arm, when he was interrupted by Mr. Kenward by "Hold on, Judge, let's finish this case," to which the court replied that he was through.

Mr. Kenward—It is unfair to leave the defendant sitting in the courtroom with the steamer loaded with passengers waiting for him. It seems to me some disposition should be made of defendant.

The court then announced that he would find the defendant over in the sum of \$2500 to appear at Sitka.

Mr. Kenward—When shall we appear at Sitka?

The Court—I don't know; when court meets there.

Judge adjourned court.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the evidence and proceedings in the hearing of the above stated cause.

Witness my hand this 21st day of June, A. D. 1899.

J. W. WEAVER, (SEAL)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public in and for the District of Alaska, this 21st day of June, 1899.

R. T. LYNG, Notary Public.

MORE TYRANNY.

As the commissioner was leaving the court a bystander said to him: "This is an awful thing, judge."

"Arrest that man and fine him \$50 for contempt of court," was the angry rejoinder of the official, beckoning to his henchman.

"Why you can't do that, judge," said Mrs. McConnell, "for you have adjourned the court."

"Then," said the unabashed commissioner, "arrest him for disturbing the peace."

The order was carried out, and the man was duly jailed to the tune of \$50.

Mrs. McConnell, the examination being over, was given tenders of bonds by several property owners, but the czar wouldn't take anything but cash, and Mr. McConnell finally put up \$1,000. All this time the Sovereign lay at the wharf, and after his release on bonds Mr. McConnell continued on his way to Nome. Judge Johnson and party, who are now in Dawson, will have the matter laid before them, and Mr. McConnell may go to Sitka later on to tell a grand jury how people are sometimes treated at Circle City.

Open day and night. The Regina.

Will Sail Saturday.

The steamer Monarch, Captain Joe Green, master, arrived from St. Michael Monday morning, and discharged 200 tons of freight at the Yukon dock. On her last trip down the Monarch took the heaviest passenger list of the season, carrying 280 people from Dawson to St. Michael, where most of this number took passage to the sound on the magnificent ocean steamer Garonne. The Monarch will remain at Dawson until 6 p. m., Saturday, July 29th, leaving in time to make close connection with the Garonne's second voyage, saving through passengers any unnecessary delay at St. Michael. Passengers booked for Seattle and Vancouver will be spared all expense at St. Michael, as they will be cared for on the Monarch until transferred to the ocean steamer. Low rates are being quoted for the through passage, and a large passenger list has already been secured for the most popular of all down-river lines. Secure tickets at Yukon dock, Frank J. Klinghorn, agent.

Best bar in town. The Regina.

5x7 camera wanted. Dawson Drug Store.

Will the party who took valise marked Chas. Milne, off steamer Columbian please return same to C. D. Co. office.

Special Sunday dinners 5 p. m. to 8 p. m. The Regina.

Sheet metal work at J. H. Holme & Co.'s. Orders filled promptly. Opposite Fairview.

Proved gold claims wanted by gentleman representing English syndicate. Describe fully and state lowest price. Address Syndicate, care Nugget office.

Water filters and coolers at J. H. Holme & Co.'s. Drink pure water and be healthy. Opposite Fairview.

Best regular table board. The Regina.

See the new consignment of men's suits, negligee shirts, underwear, hats, hosiery, etc. H. Hersberg, first floor south of Madden House, Front street.

The Pioneer Drug Store has just got its winter stock. It's big and well assorted. E. Shoff, chemist.

Come and see us, it will pay you. The Regina.

Tin and granite ware at J. H. Holme & Co.'s opposite Fairview hotel.

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