POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

WRIGHT IS NOT TO BE TRIED FOR MURDER

Jury at Hampton Indicts Havelock Man for Manslaughter

Could Not Agree on Bill for More Serious Crime—There Will Be About Fifty Witnesses—Human Skull Used to Illustrate Evidence of Dr. Price.

Hampton, N. B., Jan. 10—(Special)—Manslaughter, not murder, is the charge upon which Oscar Wright, of Havelock (N.B.), will stand trial here.

An indictment charging him with the murder of Wm. C. McKnight, at Havelock, on September 16 last, was first presented to the jury yesterday, but after hearing the witnesses the jury could not agree on an indictment of that strength. Another bill was preferred by Attorney-General Pugsley, charging manslaughter, and after hearing some of the witnesses again the jury indicted Wright on manslaughter charge.

At 10 o'clock this morning the prisoner will be formally arraigned and his trial begun.

Justice McLeod is presiding, Attorney-General Pugsley represents the crown, and the prisoner's interests are being looked after by George W. Fowler, and L. A. Currey, K. C.

Up to yesterday afternoon, thirty witnesses for the prosecution had been secured, and it is expected that there will be about twenty witnesses for the defence. The trial is expected to last three or four days, but the testimony of some of the witnesses will not take long to hear.

The Jurors.

The grand jurors are: E. A. Flewelling, Sandall T. Lamb, John G. Smith, Humphrey Davidson, John Doherty, C. W. Stockton, W. A. Fowler, Samuel H. Johnson, Elias Harmer, James E. Price, Frank McNair, James W. Patterson, William Dalling, A. W. Hicks, Robert H. Fullerton, David Floyd, John E. McAuley, Warren Mason, Oscar Campbell, John Marvin, F. Warren Titus, C. W. Weyman, John E. Titus and George M. Wilson.

The regular panel of the petit jurors is composed of Hugh J. McCormick, Kingston; James E. Weddall, Kingston; George W. Palmer, Kars; Ellsworth Belyea, Westfield; R. T. Ballentine, Westfield; Walter Kilpatrick, Upham, Robert Lackie, Upham; Andrew McClarey, Studholm, George E. Sharp, Studholm, George Ryan, Studholm, James H. Murphy, Norton; W. A. Saunders, Norton; Caleb D. Davis, Sussex; George Coggan, Sussex; H. C. Marven, Springfield; James H. Pickle, Springfield; J. Hewey DeForest, Waterford; Samuel Shannon, Waterford; A. L. Peatman, Greenwich; Thomas Gilliland, Rothesay, and Byron McLeod, Cardwell.

This morning His Honor Judge McLeod briefly addressed the grand jurors. He reviewed the circumstances surrounding the death of Wm. C. McKnight, and clearly defined murder. He said no man could take shelter from any crime he might commit by pleading that he did not intend to do it. He must bear the consequences of any such act.

Human Skull Used.

The bill prepared by the attorney-general, charging murder, was then presented to the grand jury, who retired and commenced the examination of the prosecuting witnesses. They could not agree on an indictment for murder, and accordingly Dr. Pugsley presented a bill for manslaughter. On this Wright was indicted, after a number of the witnesses were re-examined.

A human skull was utilized by Dr. Price in his evidence before the grand jury, to illustrate his testimony and it will be also used by the doctor in his evidence at the trial.

The opening proceedings and the work of the grand jury occupied practically all the morning and afternoon, and at 5.15 o'clock the jury's indictment for manslaughter was reported.

Keen interest in the trial is being manifested throughout all the parishes. It was storming today, yet men drove in from remote sections, that they might be in attendance, and as the day of the trial approaches there is every likelihood that interest in the outcome will be doubled.

The prisoner was not in the courtroom today, and though there were a number anxious to see him, it was considered best to deny them admittance.

Some Witnesses.

Among the witnesses will be James Coates, Olive Wright, William Killam, Wm. H. Price, M. D., Chas. A. Coates, Alex. McPhail, Frederick Perry, Esther Alward, Howard Alward, Blanche E. Kingston, Le Baron W. Corey, Samuel Keith, Wm. Young, Frank Dunham, Clare Perry, Jason Keith, H. A. Fowler, A. Oldfield Proctor, Frank Peterson, C. Oscar Peterson, Adam Steeves, D. T. Keith, Jonah Keith, jr., Robert W. Keith, Fred Dunham, Chipman Keith, Lelia McKnight, Augusta Keith, Thomas Keith and A. J. Guiou.

Hampton, Jan. 11—(Special)—Four witnesses were examined at the trial of Oscar Wright for manslaughter today, and as the court adjourned at 5.30 o'clock a fifth was giving his testimony. No new evidence of unusual importance has been so far adduced; in fact the most of it had been heard previously.

The prisoner, Oscar J. Wright, looks untroubled. From his personal appearance and general demeanor there is nothing to indicate that for months he has been, and at present is, in the shadow of almost the gravest of charges.

The trial is arousing wide and keen attention for people more or less interested are here from throughout Kings and surrounding counties.

The model of a skull was today produced by Dr. Price to demonstrate a certain point that came up during his examination, but it did not long remain outside of its newspaper wrapping.

"We know how Wm. McKnight came to his death," said Judge McLeod. "He was struck by a club, the skull was fractured and in view of these facts there is hardly any necessity to demonstrate; kindly lay it aside."

The three sticks used in the struggle where McKnight met death were borne carefully in and laid beneath the table occupied by the counsels. Wood is common in Kings county, but the bludgeons in court yesterday were scrutinized by hundreds of eyes as if they were timed to explode.

At 10 o'clock proceedings commenced and within half an hour the jury was empannelled.

The Prisoner Brought In.

The attorney-general then moved that the prisoner be brought in. Oscar Wright is apparently about thirty-five years of age. He is blue-eyed and of heavy build. Escorted by the sheriff, he entered court, erect, fresh, and seemingly confident. He wore a dark suit (the trousers sharply creased), a grey overcoat and black slouch hat. He entered the dock with brisk step, sat comfortably down, fondled for a moment his sweeping brown moustache, then leaned back, a model of composure.

The Attorney General's Address.

Dr. Pugsley in his address to the jury said in part: "Oscar J. Wright, of Havelock, has been indicted for the crime of manslaughter, and when his honor, the presiding judge, explains to you the meaning of it he will explain the ingredients necessary to establish such a charge. The difference between murder and manslaughter rests on two or three matters. When human life is taken, the law presumes it is taken unlawfully. But there may be circumstances which will reduce the charge to the lesser charge of manslaughter. A man in a passion may commit some act whereby a life is destroyed, but the jury may conclude that he was so carried away by his feelings that he was hardly responsible for the deed. In the present case the grand jury took a most lenient view of the circumstances connected with the commission of the crime. It is for his honor to decide as to whether the prisoner should receive life imprisonment, merely a few years or a few months. I point this out to you to show that the degrees of punishment rests with the presiding judge, and you are called on to decide whether or not the crime is culpable homicide.

"The offence with which the prisoner is charged is a very serious one. Human life is precious. It is important that not only in this community but in all communities, persons guilty of murder or manslaughter should receive adequate punishment.

"Within the past seven months I have, in my capacity as prosecuting officer, been present at two trials where the destruction of human life was involved and this makes the third. Last July one of the prisoners died on the scaffold and tomorrow the other convicted man will meet with a similar fate. The prisoner in the present instance, however, runs no risk of paying the penalty with his life, but he should be extremely thankful that the bill brought in by the grand jury was manslaughter."

Dr. Pugsley then sketched the circumstances of the Havelock tragedy.

A Point in the Case.

"As prosecuting officer," he concluded, "I seek to reach the truth. It is stated in depositions made that Wm. C. McKnight did leave his position by the side of the road and voluntarily mingle with those who were fighting and have trouble with Oscar Wright before the fatal blow was struck. I am inclined to discredit this statement from the evidence of those who were in an excellent position to be reliable witnesses, the deceased remained near a pile of shingles on the side of the road. From evidence you will hear it will be learned that McKnight was in a stooping posture when the blow was struck, and that a Mr. Coates was standing near him just prior to the moment he was felled. There is evidence that Oscar Wright came running over to McKnight with a club in his hands." (Dr. Pugsley paused and pointing to the sticks lying beneath the table asked if what he had been referring to was there.)

The cords binding the sticks were immediately cut and the attorney-general, holding one of the weapons before the jury, resumed:

"This stick," he said, "is presumably the one used by the prisoner. Deceased was struck a crushing blow on the head. He died the following morning without once having regained consciousness. If these facts are true then the prisoner may be extremely thankful that he is not on trial for his life."

Dr. Price's Evidence.

The first witness called was Dr. Price, who was called to attend McKnight the evening of the tragedy. He was first examined by Dr. Pugsley. He told of deceased's injuries and also spoke of the cut received by deceased on his hand before the row started. This was done by a sharp instrument. In the opinion of the witness the wound would have prevented him from seizing any article in that hand.

To a question by Dr. Currey in cross-examination, the witness said, "I didn't measure the distance from my home to the Wright house."

Mr. Currey—"Oh come now, you know I didn't ask you to give an answer like that. Please don't give evidence like that."

Dr. Pugsley—"Don't waste time, Mr. Currey."

A little controversy then followed between the witness and Dr. Currey respecting the index or middle finger.

Dr. Pugsley to Mr. Currey—"Please don't scream so at the witness."

His Honor Judge McLeod questioned the wisdom of taking up time over so apparently trivial a matter as the finger but Mr. Currey contended that what he wanted to know was of considerable importance. The discussion was finally ended by the witness giving an explicit answer, but not before there was a further tilt between the attorney-general and Mr. Currey. The former maintained that the latter was assuming a standing, almost terrifying attitude, and Mr. Currey retorted that it required a great deal to startle the attorney-general, after which the witness entered into a detailed description of how he dressed the injured finger.

Used Mr. Currie to Illustrate.

To further illustrate, the witness bound Mr. Currey's hand in a pocket handkerchief. Mr. Currey then asked if deceased, with his hand in a bandage, could not seize a stick and wield a blow. The witness thought that such an action would be impossible.

"Besides," he said, "Mr. McKnight was lame in the left leg."

"Never mind his leg," warmly responded Mr. Currey, "I don't want to know about it."

Subsequently the witness told of his presence at the Wright house during the quarrel. He assisted Mrs. Wright to the top of a shed in the rear of the building, and handed her nails. It was her intention to nail up a window, that Oscar Wright, who was inside, might be prevented from getting away. He did not presume that he materially assisted in keeping Oscar Wright inside.

"Then," said Mr. Currey, "you think that you did not participate in behalf of Mrs. Wright?"

"That's the view I take of it. I was only at the place because I wanted to protect my property."

The prisoner from a window about eighteen feet above ground, he continued, called to the witness to nail up the window good and fast. The witness made no reply. He believed the house was the property of Mrs. Wright.

"Will you swear," said Mr. Currey, "that she owned the house?"

"I will."

"How do you know she owned it?"

"She had a life lease."

Then followed a controversy about the ownership of the house. The witness said he never had occasion to bear any ill feeling against the prisoner. His action in helping Mrs. Wright on the shed was prompted solely by a willingness to give assistance to a woman who said she had been driven from her house, and who was endeavoring to gain some redress. He thought he was acting only in a neighborly way.

The bruise on the head of deceased was again discussed.

"I think," said Mr. Currey, passing his hand over his head, "that I can serve to illustrate this particular point. Just show the jury what part of McKnight's head was struck."

The witness did so, and as his hand rested gently an inch or so above the lawyer's right ear, there was the suggestion of the bestowal of a blessing.

The blow on McKnight's head caused a large swelling, and the discoloration of the skin covered about three inches diameter. The skin was unbroken, and the opinion of the witness was that some smooth, blunt instrument had been used.

To Dr. Pugsley—After McKnight received his fatal injury the dressing I had put on his hand for the cut fingers was still undisturbed. He could not have struck a blow with a club or any other kind of weapon.

Mrs. Eshter Alward.

At 12.30 o'clock Mrs. Esther Alward, of Havelock Corner, was called to the witness stand. Her residence was next the Wright shop, the small building in which the prisoner was temporarily detained. On the evening of Sept. 16 she saw opposite her house Ira Wright and Mr. McKnight. The latter was backing across the road, crying out: "Let me alone; I can't fight. I have a sore hand." The attitude of the other was threatening. The witness noticed McKnight dodging, as if to escape a blow, but she saw no blow struck.

Next, the witness saw Oscar Wright run up as if from the direction of the shop. He carried a monkey wrench. Three of McKnight's little girls were with the witness in the hall of her home. They were crying, and the witness would frequently turn from them to try to pacify the belligerants.

The witness next saw Samuel Keith, and later she heard a sound as if he had been struck. During the afternoon the witness had seen McKnight holding up his bandaged hand.

After the witness heard the sound of a blow being given, a team drove up and a few minutes later the two men from the team, in company with Oscar Wright, went on up the road. Some in the party had removed their coats. She heard repeated blows, and some one cry out: "Billy's killed."

Just before this Mrs. McKnight was seen by the witness hastening past the house. The witness called her in and was told by Mrs. McKnight that her husband must be found. Subsequently the witness heard Oscar Wright talking a great deal. She could not recall any of the words.

Afternoon Session.

Court adjourned at this point, and met again at 2.30 o'clock, when the witness was cross-examined by Mr. Currey. She was shown the clothes pole used by Mrs. Wright in battling with the prisoner. The witness recognized the pole. The witness said she heard Samuel Keith ask the prisoner why he was troubling Mrs. Keith, and was not given a satisfactory answer, as far as she could recall.

"I heard Oscar Wright ask Mr. Keith who he was. I was unable to hear anything else."

Questioned by Mr. Currey, the witness said that when her family heard that the prisoner was coming to Havelock, it was but fair to believe that he was coming for a second raid.

"Well," she observed, "he had come before, and had attempted to carry away property. It seemed barbarous for him to come and by force take goods from an old woman."

For the next five minutes or so there was a fiery little passage at arms between the witness and counsel. The former contended that to take property away by force was a harsh process. Some peaceful, legitimate course should be adopted.

A Warning from the Judge.

By way of illustration, Mr. Currey asked what she would do in case a buffalo robe was in dispute.

"It would be best to give it, I suppose," said the witness; "better do that than go to law and lose everything."

This rejoinder occasioned amusement, all the way from the shadow of a smile to hoarse guffaws.

"Don't let this occur again," cautioned Judge McLeod, frigidly.

The witness noticed that on the evening of the disturbance the prisoner's hand was bleeding. She was not prepared to say whether his face was bruised. She overheard the prisoner say, when informed that McKnight had been killed, that it was a pity. She did not think the remark was uttered in a spirit of sarcasm.

"You told the attorney general," said Mr. Currey, "that the children of Mr. McKnight were crying. Why?"

"They thought Ira Wright was going to kill their father."

To Dr. Pugsley she said Oscar Wright had locked the door of the store on the inside during the afternoon. He snatched the key from Mrs. Wright. "I saw him do it, and also saw him push her from the door at the time of locking it. Her hand became jammed in the door, but he released it as soon as he knew of it.

"When McKnight was backing across the road with Ira Wright following him, the former was holding up his uninjured hand, as if trying to shield himself."

William Killam, of Havelock, engineer on the Petitcodiac & Havelock railway, was next sworn. Examined by Dr. Pugsley, he related, so far as he knew, the circumstances leading up to the tragedy. He saw several men seize Oscar Wright and pull him across the road, but as soon as they released him he went to the shop door step and sat down.

When the carriage, previously mentioned, arrived the prisoner stood up, the two men in the carriage removed their coats. Somebody inquired the whereabouts of the men who wanted to fight. Then all three hurried up the road.

"Was their attitude threatening?"

"I saw them coming and thought it best to get out of the way."

Heard McNight Struck.

The witness secured a safe place from which to view the impending hostilities, and first saw Oscar Wright and his stepmother sparring. They were using stout sticks. Shortly afterwards he saw a man running past. He carried a club, and when he had proceeded about ten feet past he swung a running blow on Wm. McKnight, who had not been moving about, but who was standing still. The witness distinctly heard the sound of the blow. The witness did not once see deceased carrying any stick. After he received the injury he fell at full length, and did not move.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fowler, the witness said he believed he was not a timid man. The reason he hastened out of harm's way was because he was accompanied by a couple of grandchildren, and he was anxious for their safety.

A multitude of questions calculated to bring explicit answers from the witness were asked, but nothing having any very important bearing on the case was adduced. The witness could not readily remember just how McKnight was standing when he was struck.

"But how was he standing," questioned Mr. Fowler, with an impatient gesture.

"On his feet."

The spectators looked at each other and smiled hesitatingly, but around the bench, the witness stand and lawyers' table was funeral solemnity.

The next witness, Dr. George Fleming, of Petitcodiac, examined by Dr. Pugsley, gave evidence respecting decease's injuries, similar to that given by Dr. Price.

Chas. A. Coates, of Havelock, brakeman on the Havelock railway, swore that early on the evening of Sept. 16 he saw Wm. McKnight walking toward the Wright shop. He came to within a few yards of the shop, then turned and started to recross the street. At this juncture Ira Wright came out of an alley and went toward McKnight, saying: "Damn you, I'll give you looking for law. McKnight said: "I've a sore hand," and shortly afterwards Oscar Wright, from a window in the Wright shop, shouted: "Give it to him, damn him." Then Ira struck McKnight on the breast, and the latter stumbled.

The witness next heard the sound of breaking glass, and saw Oscar emerge from the Wright shop. He carried a monkey wrench, and hurried toward McKnight, saying: "Damn you, I'll give it to you."

Alexander McPhail stepped toward the three men and called out: "Hold on there," or words to that effect. The witness at this stage was standing about twenty feet away.

The deceased was then permitted to get up, and the two Wrights retired. McKnight walked over to where the witness was standing, and as he came the witness noticed that his hand was bandaged. The witness then heard Oscar say to Ira: "You get the horse," after which he was struck by Mrs. Olive Wright when he was attempting to enter the shop.

Mrs. Wright's son, Samuel Keith, now said to Oscar: "Why are you bothering the old woman?" to which Oscar replied: "What are you looking for?"

The prisoner was then seized by Chip Keith, Sam. Keith and Frank Dunham, and pulled into the road. Mrs. Wright followed them up, and continued to strike at the prisoner with her pole. The witness heard the prisoner shout to the men who had seized him: "Let go of me or"—

During this turmoil McKnight was standing by the witness, and took no part in the struggle.

THE WRIGHT JURY

GEO. LANGSTROTH, Hampton (foreman).
JAMES STRONG, Studholm.
GEORGE DRYDEN, Sussex.
WALTER KILPATRICK, Upham
TIMOTHY MURPHY, Studholm.
ABNER CRIPPS, Sussex.
WILLIAM HOLMAN, Sussex.
GEO. H. BARNES, Hampton.
ELLSWORTH BELYEA, Westfield
JAS. E. WEDDALL, Kingston.
A. L. PEATMAN, Greenwich.
JOHN McMANUS, Hampton.

THE OLDEST MAN IN AMERICA

Tells How He Escaped the Terrors of Many Winters by Using Pe-ru-na.

Mr. Brock's Age is 115 Years.

MR. ISAAC BROCK, BORN IN BUNCOMBE CO., N. C., MARCH 1, 1789.

His age is 115 years, vouched for by authentic record. He says: "I attribute my extreme old age to the use of Peruna."

Born before the United States was formed
Saw 22 Presidents elected.
Pe-ru-na has protected him from all sudden changes.
Veteran of four wars.
Shod a horse when 99 years old.
Always conquered the grip with Peruna.
Witness in a land suit at the age of 110 years.
Believes Peruna the greatest remedy of the age for catarrhal diseases.

ISAAC BROCK, a citizen of McLennan county, Texas, has lived for 115 years. For many years he resided at Bosque Falls, eighteen miles west of Waco, but now lives with his son-in-law at Valley Mills, Texas.

A short time ago, by request, Uncle Isaac came to Waco and sat for his picture. In his hand he held a stick cut from the grave of General Andrew Jackson, which has been carried by him ever since. Mr. Brock is a dignified old gentleman, showing few signs of decrepitude. His family Bible is still preserved, and it shows that the date of his birth was written 115 years ago.

Surely a few words from this remarkable old gentleman, who has had 115 years of experience to draw from, would be interesting as well as profitable. A lengthy biographical sketch is given of this remarkable old man in the Waco Times-Herald, December 4, 1898. A still more pretentious biography of this, the oldest living man, illustrated with a double column portrait, was given the readers of the Dallas Morning News, dated December 11, 1898, and also the Chicago-Times Herald of same date. This centenarian is an ardent friend of Peruna, having used it many years.

In speaking of his good health and extreme old age, Mr. Brock says:

"After a man has lived in the world as long as I have, he ought to have found out a great many things by experience. I think I have done so.

"One of the things I have found out to my entire satisfaction is the proper thing for ailments that are due directly to the effects of the climate. For 115 years I have withstood the changeable climate of the United States.

"I have always been a very healthy man, but of course subject to the little affections which are due to sudden changes in the climate and temperature. During my long life I have known a great many remedies for coughs, colds and diarrhœa.

"As for Dr. Hartman's remedy Peruna, I have found it to be the best, if not the only, reliable remedy for these affections. It has been my standby for many years, and I attribute my good health and extreme old age to this remedy.

"It exactly meets all my requirements. It protects me from the evil effects of sudden changes; it keeps me in good appetite; it gives me strength; it keeps my blood in good circulation. I have come to rely upon it almost entirely for the many little things for which I need medicine.

"When epidemics of la grippe first began to make their appearance in this country I was a sufferer from this disease.

"I had several long sieges with the grip. At first I did not know that Peruna was a remedy for this disease. When I heard that la grippe was epidemic catarrh, I tried Peruna for la grippe and found it to be just the thing."

In a later letter dated January 31, 1903, Mr. Brock writes:

"I am well and feeling as well as I have for years. The only thing that bothers me is my sight. If I could see better I could walk all over the farm and it would do me good. I would not be without Peruna."

Yours truly,

Isaac Brock,

For a free book on catarrh, address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

FOSTER TO LEAD PARTY PRO TEM

Conservative Caucus Appoints Him Till Borden is Ready

UNITED CHOICE

Resignation of Leader Received, But Not Accepted—Confidence Voted in Him and Committee Appointed to Announce the Unanimous Decision.

Ottawa, Jan. 10—(Special)—The Conservative caucus was held tonight in the old railway committee of the House of Commons. Senator DeBoucherville presided. George Taylor read letters from several absent members expressing their desire to see Mr. Borden remain at the head of the party. Mr. Taylor then read Mr. Borden's letter of resignation, which was as follows:

Borden's Letter of Resignation.

"To the Conservative members of the senate and of the House of Commons: Assembled in caucus four years ago you bestowed upon me the highest mark of your confidence, when you required me to undertake the arduous duty and grave responsibility of leading the party in the house of commons. To the best of my ability I have endeavored ever since to justify that confidence. I gratefully acknowledge how much you have done to strengthen my hands; and I am deeply sensible that without your loyal and generous aid, freely accorded on all occasions, my task would have been infinitely more onerous.

"We still firmly believe that the policy which we advocated and the principles which we upheld in the recent contest were truly in the best interests of Canada, and although we may regret temporary defeat, yet we do not for one moment regret the stand which we took, upon the great questions of the day.

"Under the conditions which have ensued it is necessary that you shall choose another leader. My resignation has already been given informally. I now place it unreservedly in your hands with every assurance of my hearty co operation in the ranks of the party.

"Let me add that the happy remembrances of your loyal support and comradeship will always abide with me.

"Faithfully yours,

"(Signed) R. L. BORDEN."

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 7, 1905.

Wouldn't Accept It.

Hon. John Haggart moved, seconded by Dr. Roche, Marquette, that the caucus decline to accept Mr. Borden's resignation, but that he be requested to attend an adjourned meeting of the caucus for the purpose of hearing what his supporters had to say as to why he should not remain leader. Dr. Roche, Col. Hughes, Mr. McCarthy, Calgary; Cockshutt, Brantford; Dr. Chisholm, East Huron; Dr. Sproule, Mr. Ames, Michael McDonnell, Toronto; Sir MacKenzie Bowell, Dr. Stockton (St. John), all endorsed the motion. The resolution was then put and carried.

Hon. Mr. Foster moved, seconded by Dr. Daniel, that De Boucherville, Foster, Dr. Roche, Wilmot, Monk, McCarthy, Lefurgey, Taylor and Senator Perley be a committee to send a telegraphic message to Mr. Borden notifying him of the action taken by the caucus and requesting him to attend a caucus at the earliest possible moment. This was carried.

It was moved by Mr. Bergeron, seconded by Dr. Sproule, that pending the return of the leader of the party to the house of commons the senior privy councillor shall lead the opposition therein.

Mr. Foster is the senior privy councillor and will therefore lead. He is Mr. Haggart's senior by some three months. The caucus then adjourned to be called at the will of the chairman.

The following message was sent to Mr. Borden:

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 10, 1905.

R. L. Borden, K. C., Halifax, (N.S.):

"Caucus of Conservative senators and members unanimously decline to accept your resignation of the leadership and in the name of the party in the senate and house of commons as throughout the dominion, respectfully request you to retain it. They desire you to attend an adjourned meeting of the caucus at Ottawa at the earliest possible moment."

This message was signed by Senator De Boucherville, chairman, and the other members of the sub-committee.

JAPS SENDING LONG RANGE ARTILLERY TO THE FRONT

Tokio, Jan. 10.—7 p. m.—Information which has reached certain reliable quarters here state that the Russian generals in Mancuuria are losing confidence in General Kuropatkin and that the Russian situation around Mukden is a serious one. It is feared that if Kuropatkin attacks the Japanese position along the Shakhe river he will court disaster and that his further retreat will mean the demoralization of his army.

This information goes on to say that there is constant bickering at Russian Manchurian headquarters and that the soldiers are discontented, dissatisfaction beginning with the series of retreats after the battle of Telissu (Yafangow) and the withdrawal from Liao Yang when it was believed it was possible to hold that place. The climax came with the Russian defeat at the battle of Shakhe following Kuropatkin's strongly worded order directing the forward movement, dated October 2. This defeat brought a storm of criticism upon the comander-in-chief and resulted in discord among the officers.

Long inaction, the information alleges, is undermining the morale of the Russian army and it is pointed out that recent skirmishes and outpost brushes indicate that the Russian soldiers are becoming disheartened as they do not show their former fighting spirit or qualities.

The siege guns to be sent to Manchuria from Port Arthur will probably be placed in advance positions for the purpose of enabling the Japanese to shell far into the Russian line.

ONE BOX OF DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS CURED DROPSY.

Dropsy is not a disease in itself, as many people believe, but is an evidence of very severe kidney trouble. Dropsy is caused by watery particles oozing through the walls of the arteries when they are distended by unusual pressure which can only be caused by obstructions in the kidneys. The symptoms of Dropsy are puffiness under the eyes, swelling of the feet and ankles, urine changed in character and appearance, smothering feeling from exertion or excitement. The only rational method of treating this disease is to reach the kidneys and restore them to a healthy condition.

The most successful remedy for this purpose is Doan's Kidney Pills. Read what Miss Agnes Creelman, Upper Smithville, N.S., says of them:—"I caught a cold, which settled in my kidneys, and turned to dropsy. My face, limbs, and feet became bloated, and if I pressed my finger on them it would make a white impression that would last fully a minute before the flesh regained its natural color. I was advised to try Doan's Kidney Pills, and found by their use that I was cured in a very short time. I have never had any trouble with it since.

Price 50 cents, per box, or 3 for $1.25.

THE DOAN KIDNEY PILL CO., TORONTO, ONT.

1 BUSH. OATS FREE

We want the farmers to try the heaviest and healthiest Oat in existence. Enormous yielder, beautiful color, strength of straw, certainly a profit-maker. Send at once. Address

Darch & Hunter, London
Seedsmen, Oat Dept.

Nova Scotia Old Man Found Frozen to Death.

Cornwallis, N. S., Jan. 10—(Special)—A terrible discovery was made in a field near Kingsport on Monday. Captain William Ellis noticed a hand sticking up through a snow bank near the roadside. He got together some men who dug down through the snow and found the body of a man.

The body had probably lain there for some days for the hand and arm were badly picked by ravens. The body was taken to the undertaking rooms of Ward & Bros., at Canning, where an inquest was held by Dr. Webster, coroner, [illegible] ville.

The verdict was [illegible] to cold.

The deceased was [illegible] as being William K[illegible] eighty and ninety [illegible] Hall's Harbor.