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Evidence in the Trial of E 4361 Private P. C. Plante Royal M. C. Regt.

* First witness for the prosecution E 5505 Corporal P. Girard
Royal M. C. Regt. having been duly sworn:

Prosecutor -! Where were you between the hours of 2100 and 2200 on June 21st 1903?

Witness -! In the recreation room on promenade deck.

Prosecutor -! What were you doing there?

Witness -! ~~What happened?~~ I was sitting with some friends playing cards.

Prosecutor -! What happened?

Witness -! I suddenly felt someone grabbing the front part of my steel helmet from behind me and pulling it to the back of my head. Immediately after I was struck on my right eye by a man's fist from behind. After I had been hit three or four times my chin strap broke and I fell forward on my face. I was then hit on the back of my head. I got up to face the man behind me and as I turned he ran away through the door of the recreation room.

Prosecutor -! Can you tell the court who hit you?

Witness -! When I turned I recognized Private Plante, before he could run away. I now identify him as the accused.

Prosecutor -! Was Private Plante the person who hit you?

Witness -! Yes sir!

Defence -! When you fell down were you hit while on the floor?

Witness -! Yes sir!

Defence -! In what position with respect to you was the person standing who hit you?

Witness -! Behind me.

Defence -! Was he behind you all the time?

Witness -! Yes sir!

Defence -! If he was behind you all the time how can you identify him as the person who hit you?

Witness -! While I was actually lying on the ground it was impossible for me to see who was hitting me.

Defence -! When you got up and turned around could you definitely say that the person running away was the person who hit you?

Witness -! Yes sir! It was Private Plante.