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DR. W. W. DOHERTY HELD ON CHARGE OF MURDER

(Continued from page 6)

An *obituary* was called and being sworn, said:—I reside and practice in the Town of Campbellton. I am a duly registered medical practitioner and have been practising eleven years. Mr. Powell—"Long enough to kill a number of people," to which Dr. Pinault replied—"and to save a good many too." I was called by Dr. Lumann at 9 p. m. and saw Mr. Bruce at his residence. He was in bed, unconscious. Respiration was a little labored and irregular. He had a dressing soaked with blood over his left eye. Dr. Lumann and I removed the dressing, examined the wound and found the left eyelid badly swollen and a cut on the upper left eyelid. There was blood issuing from the wound, which we washed, and put on a new dressing. We applied an ice bag to the top of Mr. Bruce's head, hot water bottles to his feet, and then I went away. I did not make further examination of the wound or of the body at all. I saw Mr. Bruce the next day, 22nd of September, in the same room. He was then dead. I had orders from the coroner, Dr. A. Martin, to make a post mortem examination of the body of Daniel J. Bruce. I made the examination and this is what it revealed:—The body was in a state of rigor mortis, no sign of putrefaction, hypostatic congestion on the back of the body. No wound on the body except the cut on the upper left eyelid already referred to. This cut was 3-4 of an inch long and was situated at about 1-4 of an inch from the edge of the eyelid, the middle of the cut being about in a line with the external corner of the eye, half inside and half outside of that. The external 2-3 of the cut were not quite through the skin. The inner 1-3 of the wound was deep and directed towards the orbit. It was about 1-3 of an inch deep by diameter of 1-3 or 1-4 of an inch. The fatty tissues of the orbit were the seat of extravasation of blood. The flesh immediately surrounding the eye ball was torn on the outer side of the eye ball. The direction of the wound in the orbit was inwardly and slightly upward. The envelopes of the brain seemed to be normal except at a point corresponding to the posterior side of the orbit where a fragment of bone turned towards the brain had torn the membrane of the brain. The base of the brain was the seat of hemorrhage, clots of blood covering the base and extending to the top of brain. The brain itself seemed to be normal, although it was bloodless. At the base of the skull, at a point corresponding to the posterior part of the orbit, (the injured portion) there were four pieces of bone which had been fractured, and which could be easily removed with the fingers, leaving an opening large enough to admit the tip of the finger. By passing a probe into the wound on the eyelid it would come directly against the fractured bone. Examination of the other parts of the body did not reveal anything abnormal. The wound would be caused by a blunt instrument. I would consider the point of an umbrella a blunt instrument. The post mortem revealed that the cause of death was due to hemorrhage at the base of the brain, caused by the fracture of the skull, produced by a blunt instrument. Dr. Pinault was here shown the umbrella and expressed the opinion that the point of it would cause a wound of such a nature.

Continuing the witness said:—It would certainly require some force to inflict such an injury, and the main resistance to the blow was the skin. The optic nerve was not injured. Mr. Graham was with me all the time of the post mortem, and Dr. Lumann was there when I made the examination of the brain, the wound and the skull. Four pieces of bone were cracked from the skull, but not detached, except one piece which was turned inward, and was hanging by the membrane. One piece was 1-3 of an inch long, the others smaller. The blood vessels were ruptured by this blunt instrument passing through the orbit.

From the examination made I would say that death had been caused by that wound. There was no other injury.

Cross examined by Mr. Powell, witness said the bone of the skull at the injured part was much thinner than the rest, but he would not say it was as thin as a piece of paper. The bone is of a brittle nature.

Dr. Lumann, recalled, stated that he was the first physician of Mr. Bruce. Mr. Bruce had no organic disease the day he died. From the examination, witness said, death was caused by internal hemorrhage of the membrane of the brain from the wound. The brain itself was not injured. Hemorrhage was slight. It was a large artery that was ruptured. I could not say how much force was used to fracture the skull. It is thinner at this point, but is generally thick. The injury was about 3-4 of an inch from the optic nerve. The injury to the covering of the brain was not directly opposite the external wound but you could follow and reach the internal wound by passing a probe from the outside.

This concluded the evidence. Judge Matheson asked Doherty to stand up and said he was not called on to plead, but if he wished to say anything he might do so, but warned him that anything he might say could be used in evidence against him. Mr. Powell then said "My client is innocent of the charge," and Doherty said "Not Guilty."

The magistrate then said it was not within his power to find prisoner guilty or not guilty, but if he found the evidence sufficiently strong to remand prisoner to a higher court. He then said: I therefore find the evidence sufficiently strong and therefore remand prisoner to the common jail at Dalhousie, there to await his trial at a higher court on the charge of murder.

Doherty was then placed in the cells and later on removed to Dalhousie jail.

(Campbellton Graphic)

WEDDING BELLS
AUDET—LEBLANC

In the church of the Sacred Heart Lower Aboussagan, Sept. 26th, the marriage took place of Miss Albina, daughter of Mr. Dona LeBlanc, and Mr. Philip J. Audet, of Sackville. Miss Lea Audet, of Campbellton, sister of the groom, acted as bridesmaid, while Mr. Oliver Leger, of Sackville, supported the groom. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Fr. H. Cormier in the presence of a large company of friends and relatives of the principals. After the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Audet left for a brief trip to Prince Edward Island. They have now returned to Sackville where they will reside, and where Mr. Audet conducts a successful barber business.

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