

# NEWMAN CLARK IS SENTENCED TO DIE

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Andover, N. B., Dec. 1.—In the case of Newman Clark on trial for the murder of Phoebe Bell at Grand Falls this morning the prosecution was finished and the defence opened. Witnesses for the prosecution were Coroner Ryan, George M. Taylor, Max White, Mrs. Sirois and Mrs. Kearney. Their evidence was all to the same effect, bearing on events which took place the day previous to the shooting, the purchase of a revolver by the accused, and his actions. In opening the case for the defence, Hon. W. P. Jones, K. C., addressed the jury outlining the salient features after which he called two witnesses, Arthur Russell and George Everett, uncle and grandfather respectively of the defendant. They gave evidence touching on his mental condition after which the court adjourned to this afternoon.

At the forenoon session Coroner Ryan corroborated the evidence of several of the former witnesses.

Mammy Sirois, of Grand Falls, said that she was at a house across the road from Herbert Woods and heard the shooting at about 5 p.m. On going over to the Woods' house she found Phoebe Bell on the bed dead and Clark on the floor. The witness produced part of the clothes worn by Miss Bell when murdered.

Monique Martin, in the employ of J. L. White, of Grand Falls, as clerk, on being questioned, testified that Clark came into White's store several days before the shooting and asked Maxwell White for a revolver. Clark was sent to Miss Martin in the hardware department, who showed him two revolvers, a thirty-two and a twenty-two. Clark asked for a larger revolver, but they had none larger. He went to purchase one of the revolvers for nine dollars and the price was ten dollars. The prisoner left the store and went to look for a cheaper weapon. While in the store witness thought the prisoner looked as though "doped." Maxwell White corroborated the evidence of Miss Martin.

G. M. Taylor, of Grand Falls, to whose store the prisoner went from White's, testified that the prisoner tried to buy a revolver there several days before the shooting. The day of the murder, witness said, Clark stood in his store for about six hours and appeared to be looking at the Pelletier house where Phoebe Bell sometimes stayed. The prisoner acted strangely and looked peculiar about the eyes. At 3 o'clock witness happened to be out doors and saw Miss Bell go by in the direction of the Woods' house where the murder was committed. When the witness returned to the store Clark was gone.

Mrs. Herbert Woods, the next witness called and in whose house the murder was committed, was not present and is beyond the jurisdiction of the court. Ida Pelletier swore that at present Mrs. Woods is residing in Carleton Place, Me.

Hon. W. P. Jones in his address to the jury said there was no doubt but that the prisoner was guilty of the shooting, but pleaded that Clark was not in his right mind and therefore not guilty of murder in the first degree.

Thos. Russell of Fort Fairfield, Me., and an uncle of the prisoner's father, was the first witness for the defence. He told of a sister who was in the Provincial Hospital for about a year. Peter Clark, uncle of the prisoner, witness said, shot himself through the head when twenty-eight years old. William Dorsey, great uncle of the prisoner, attempted to take his own life by cutting his throat and was never able to talk plainly again.

George Everett, the prisoner's grandfather, was next on the witness stand. He said that his wife had been sick for about ten years. During this time she acted quite crazy at times, breaking things up generally and running away from home. Finally she got the idea that she was being starved to death, which was not true. A brother-in-law of the witness had a son, a nephew of the prisoner, commonly called "Crazy George Dorsey," who had such habits as wearing a fur coat in the summer time.

Court adjourned at 1 p.m. to re-open at 2:30 p.m.

The first witness called in the afternoon was Forest W. Nickerson, of Fort Fairfield, Me., who told of a night last fall when he went down out of the village into an open field to get a load of boards. He had a rack on sleds. At 9 o'clock when he was leaving the field, looking back witness saw an arm over the edge of the rack. Then he saw a man standing on the sled bent over and looking under the sled. The man kept taking his hat off and when he straightened up the witness recognized Newman Clark. The witness and the prisoner both said "Hello." Then the prisoner jumped off and ran along the road towards Andover.

Mother Gives Testimony.

Almeda Clark, of Four Falls, mother of the prisoner, while on the stand told the prisoner's life story. When about a year old he had fits frequently until three years old when they became less frequent. At nine years he got a fall and had fits again for a year. When fifteen he was thrown from a horse rake and received a scar which may be seen yet. After this fall he had severe pains in the head. At the age of seventeen he was married, later divorced and married again in 1917. Up until two of three years ago he was smart and a good farmer. Then he became melancholy and very forgetful. About this time his house and nearly all his potato crop were burned. A seven-months-old son of the prisoner died of fits.

Clarence Clark, brother of the prisoner, who lives with his mother on the farm next to the prisoner's, corroborated her evidence. The witness on being questioned denied having heard the prisoner say on the night of the murder several hours after "Get a good doctor and a good lawyer."

Marshall Everett in his evidence told of seeing the prisoner with a revolver in his possession when he started for Grand Falls on Saturday before.

(Continued on 9th page)

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