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TRIAL OF EUGENE POITRAS,

ACCUSED OF THE

MURDER OF J. B. OUELLET.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, }
DISTRICT OF SAGUENAY. }

MONDAY, 14th June, 1869.

CROWN WITNESSES.

Dr. ZEPHIRIN BOUDREAU, sworn :

I know the prisoner. I am Coroner for the District of Saguenay. On the 27th day of July, 1868, I received a letter from the Government (letter produced by the witness), which instructed me to go and hold an inquest at a place called "Les Isles de Mai." Accompanied by Dr. Hamel, I repaired to a place called "Cailles Ronges," where I held the inquest on the remains of a man supposed to be Jean Baptiste Ouellet. I swore in a jury of twelve men, and I attended to the ordinary proceedings of a preliminary nature. The report now produced is really the report of my inquest at the place called "Cailles Ronges." The inquest was opened on the 1st day of September, and was continued during the 2nd and 3rd days of the same month. The body was found at the place called "Les Isles de Mai." I did not go to the place myself, but by my order, Dr. Hamel conveyed the body from that place to "Cailles Ronges."

Cross-examined.

I never went to the place called "Les Isles de Mai," and I was not present at the exhumation of the body.

Dr. JOSEPH ALEXANDER HAMEL, examined :

I know the prisoner. I am a Doctor of Medicine. As such, I accompanied Dr. Boudreau, the Coroner, for the purpose of holding an inquest at "Les Isles de Mai." The package containing the clothes, and one containing hair and beard were sealed by me. These clothes with the hair and beard above alluded to, I found in a box supposed to contain the remains of one Jean Baptiste Ouellet. They have always remained in my possession since the day of my finding them.

The gun now shewn was handed to me by the Coroner last October. I kept it in my possession, and I, this morning, transferred it to the Clerk of the Crown.

Cross Examined.

The occasion alluded to in my examination in chief was the only one on which I visited "Les Isles de Mai". I once passed near the place or opposite to it in a boat. I know as well that these islands are "Les Isles de Mai", as I know that this is the parish of Malbui, because everybody says so. The names of the respective localities are not designated by any particular public title.

I must remark that not only are the "Isles de Mai" included in this description, but also the mainland lying adjacent thereto. The same rule applies respecting "L'Isle Verte" and "Sept Isles".

I kept the gun in my office, and having changed my place of residence this spring, I put it in my garret. My servant is the person who most frequently goes into this garret, and very few others go into it. With respect to strangers, very few go into my garret, as I am not in the habit of receiving them in such a place. I did not place any special marks on the gun. I only know it as the one given to me by Dr. Boudreau, from its general appearance, the form of the barrel, the mounting, the ramrod, the breech, (as it was originally a flint gun) and because the lock works badly. I further recognize it by a chip taken off near the lock, by a fissure in the mounting and by a