

DRUCE MYSTERY CASE RESUMED DICKENS BELIEVED IN DUAL PERSONALITY

Witness Tells How Supposed Duke Always Carried False Beard in His Pocket.

London, Nov. 27.—The hearing of the Druce case involving the claim to the Portland estate, was resumed again today.

Miss Mary Robinson, who was an amanuensis to the late T. C. Druce, who is said to have been fifth Duke of Portland, was shown letters purporting to have been written by the Duke of Portland to T. C. Druce.

As a corroboration of Miss Robinson's statement that she met Charles Dickens in Kensington Garden shortly before his death, she made a statement at the time the novelist told her that Druce and the Duke of Portland were one and the same person, Mr. Jones, counsel for the prosecution, read an extract from the reminiscences of Wetzell Reid, stating he had seen Mr. Dickens walking in Kensington Gardens with a young girl a week before he died.

Mrs. Margaret Hamilton, an old lady of seventy years, testified that Druce and the Duke of Portland were the same person. She said the Duke, whom she described as a tall man, read an extract from the reminiscences of Wetzell Reid, stating he had seen Mr. Dickens walking in Kensington Gardens with a young girl a week before he died.

Continuing, Mrs. Hamilton testified that she last saw the Duke of Portland in 1876. The Duke then said he felt very ill and thought he was going to die. Mrs. Hamilton said to him: "I hope you will repent of all your sins," and to this the Duke said "Thank you."

In the course of her testimony Mrs. Hamilton said the fourth Duke of Portland was her godfather. She had been at Woburn Abbey with her father as the guest of the fifth duke, whom she knew well in his dual character.

Mrs. Hamilton was under cross-examination in regard to the discrepancy between the evidence she gave today and that before another court when the case adjourned until November 29th.

RETURNING MISSIONARIES. Members of Ministerial Association Visited Rev. Dr. John Yesterday.

A deputation from the ministerial association of this city, consisting of its president, Rev. Thos. W. Gilson, and secretary, Rev. H. A. Carson, accompanied by friends, had the privilege of a brief but interesting interview with the veteran missionary to China, Rev. Dr. Griffiths John, on the Empress of India, as she lay at the outer wharf yesterday before starting for the far east.

The deputation expressed the pleasure they had in seeing the face of one whose labors for Christ for over half a century had made his name so familiar, and wished him God's blessing on his return to his sphere of labor.

Dr. John, after thanking the ministers of Victoria for their kindly thought and words, spoke of the marvelous change that had come over China since 1855, when his work in that land began. He was very sanguine of great progress and said that he had greater hopes for China than for Japan.

Recent events have humbled the former while filling the latter with praise, as all Christians knew the humbled spirit was the one to receive blessing.

Dr. John is accompanied by his daughter and son-in-law, who are also returning to the mission field.

As explained by Commissioner Coombs, the army plans to bring a large number of people to the province this year, many of whom, it is expected, will possess considerable means, and be equipped to go into farming on their own account.

Commissioner Coombs, head of the Salvation Army in Canada, was in the city last evening and talked for a time on the immigration scheme which has been agreed upon between the army and the provincial government with Hon. R. G. Tatlow.

Commissioner Coombs delivered his illustrated lecture, "From Bethlehem to Calgary," in the A. O. U. W. hall before a large audience.

The lecture itself was intensely interesting and the time light views of an excellent character. The views were made more striking by the explanations offered by the commissioner and the music rendered from time to time.

GOVERNMENT AIDS CROP MOVEMENT Banks Avail Themselves of Offer Made by Finance Minister--Conflicting Reports.

Ottawa, Nov. 27.—Hon. W. S. Fielding says some advantage has already been taken of the government offer of aid to those banks wishing to make advances for the movement of the crop, and it is expected that a further use of the arrangement will be made shortly.

On the whole question of financial stringency, Mr. Fielding said many foolish things had been said. Some of the criticisms were absurd, and they do not call for notice, but the minister of finance emphatically denies the report that the government has been borrowing largely from banks in Canada, and that this is the explanation of the tightness of money.

The amount of the capital of the company is one million dollars divided into ten thousand shares of one hundred dollars each.

Man Commits Suicide on Roof of House After Desperate Struggle With His Wife.

New York, Nov. 27.—Louis McElroy, an electrical engineer, shot and instantly killed himself yesterday on the roof of his home, in upper Eighth avenue, after a desperate struggle with his wife, in which she attempted to prevent him from taking his life.

McElroy picked up a pistol and started from his flat to the roof with the crowd of people who ranks as a major in the Canadian Province of British Columbia, accompanied Commissioner Coombs during his visit.

At a meeting of the Swansea Parochial Intellectuals a few days ago, a paper was read by Dr. Wilbur Ellis in which he mentioned that other members who spoke subsequently, to the effect that steps be taken to purchase from the United States that portion of the Pacific coast fronting on the Canadian Province of British Columbia, but up to the present claimed as an attachment to the Alaskan possession of the United States.

Germany Will Not Permit Its People to Be Proselytized.

Leipzig, Nov. 27.—The police to-day expelled from Saxony four Mormon missionaries as obnoxious foreigners. The German authorities recently decided not to permit Mormon missionaries engaged in the work of proselytism to enter their empire.

VICTORIA INVITED. The Local of Y. M. C. A. Asked to Participate in Telegraph Field Meet.

A letter has been received from W. Gardner Findley, of the Y. M. C. A., inviting the local association to join the coast association in a telegraph field meet to be held in the end of December or the beginning of January next. The event will include 130-yard and 440-yard races, potato race, shot-put, pole vault and high jump. There will be gold, silver and bronze medals presented to the winners of the different events, and Sale Lake has offered to donate a cup trophy to the winning team.

This proposition, which was made by A. M. Gilley, the Portland Y. M. C. A. physical director, will be discussed at a meeting of the local physical committee to be held to-morrow night in the rooms of Bro. J. W. C. at the Y. M. C. A.

On December 12th there will be a very important meeting held in Seattle, when the physical directors of all the Y. M. C. A.'s will gather and discuss subjects of mutual interest. It is worth a good deal to find out what others are doing and how they are doing it, and this will form a large part of the subject matter for the conference.

MINERS AGREE TO WAGE REDUCTION Roseland Mines Will be Kept Open During Winter--Referendum Vote Carried.

Roseland, Nov. 26.—The Roseland Miners' Union by referendum vote today consented to reduce the wage scale to that which was in effect prior to July 1st. The old wage scale was \$3.50 for machine mtn and \$2.75 for shovelers.

WINNIEPEG'S 140 CHURCHES. Sunday School Workers Are Engaged in Taking Religious Census.

Winnipeg, Nov. 27.—A religious census of the city was taken this afternoon, all persons over four years of age being entered. There were some 700 Sunday school workers engaged in the city there are 140 churches and missions, with a seating capacity of 45,000. The results of the census will not be known until to-morrow.

SILK COMPANY'S FAILURE. York Pa., Nov. 27.—The York Silk Manufacturing Company today went into the hands of a receiver, Capt. Lanus and M. C. Collins, of this city, were appointed receivers by the court on petition of the creditors, who allege that the company is insolvent.

CANADIAN SUCCESSES. London, Nov. 27.—Among those who have been successful in their final efforts at the schools (Oxford), and in the examination for B. C. L. and second class literae humaniores, are: L. Brebant, Prince Edward Island; E. R. Patterson, Ontario; J. Maclean, Manitoba; J. Archibald, Quebec; S. M. Herbert, Newfoundland, and C. B. Martin, New Brunswick.

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\$1.00 VOL. 86 EXPLOSION Heart Rending Scene Surrounded by R Fayette City, Dec. 2.—Betw and 500 miners, possibly more, tumbled in the Naomi mine, United Coal Company, located miles west of this city, at practically no time that they are there. Their imprisonment is due to a piston of black damp about 8 feet long, soon after the light into an old working with an opening causing an explosion. Had the explosion occurred night except Sunday, the number victims would have been very large. The mine employs from 275 regularly. About one-fourth are engaged at night, but on nights only about half of the force goes to work. The mine shaft type, and the concrete in the entry were broken down so completely close the passage for considerable distance. It is said a miner, who was climbing the shaft at this deadly gas is pouring in volumes. The gas found in this territory is so poisonous to human beings can live in it for than a few minutes, and for this reason it is not believed a single man, an unidentified foreigner, was the cause of the explosion. The mine immediately filled with gas and several not hurt by a piston perished in running to the fresh air. The shock of CHRISTENING RIOT. Pierce Fight Among Galicians—Winnipeg—Two Wounded Seriously. One Drinks Himself to Death. Winnipeg, Dec. 2.—A fierce fight occurred at a Galician christening night. One of the guests was twice, and is in a serious condition. The assailants have been arrested. Two of the Galicians, who drank too copious high wine, was found dead to-day. SAYS NEW YORK REACHED CL James J. Hill of Opinion That and Commerce Will See Other Outlets. New York, Dec. 2.—It is the opinion of James J. Hill that New York reached the climax of her supremacy. "No city can maintain its greatness in this age of steam, and its chief claim is that it is a desert place in which to do business. Traffic will be forced out here; business other lo." "The price to live and do business of the people to stand. They forced to go elsewhere, seeking where the cost is more real." "What has taken years to establish be lost quickly. Traffic can be dammed up. It will seek an outlet along the edges or markets entirely new channels." U. S. PRESIDENCY. Washington Politicians Differ Platform on Which Wm. J. Bryan Should Run. New York, Dec. 2.—Out of six Democratic senators and four congressmen in Washington by New York World, forty-four delegates equivalent to the recent election of Wm. J. Bryan that he is a date for the Democratic nomination the presidency eliminates all candidates. Practically all of them believe should run on a conservative platform, although there is a wide divergence of opinion as to what the form should be. Of those who do not consider Bryan the only man, only a few candidates. He comes out in favor of Governor Johnson, of Minnesota.