

Re: Damas MASSON - Murder (263).,
Union Lake District, Sask.
(UNION LAKE DETACHMENT CASE)

Contd.

15. Upon the jury-men having viewed the body of the deceased Genvive (Mrs.Damas) MASSON the Coroner stated that he would proceed there and then with the Inquest Proceedings, and called for witnesses. I advised the Coroner that I had had little time to conduct investigations with the view to producing the necessary witnesses, however, from statement which I had obtained earlier from MASSON I was able to call upon the following list, evidence was also given by me and pertained to investigations at the house of PAHTAYKAN on the evening of the 30th., and events leading to apprehension of MASSON on charge of Trespass under Indian Act:

- (1) Mrs.Philip PAHTAYKAN. Treaty Indian. Union Lake, Sask.
- (2) Mrs.Isadore HORSE. " " " "
- (3) Philip PAHTAYKAN. " " " "
- (4) Joseph PAHTAYKAN. (17) " " " "
- (5) Simon MASSON. Half-Breed. Union Lake District, Sask.
- (6) Archie MASSON. Half-Breed. " " " "
- (7) D.A.Dunlop. Cst.

Other material witnesses such as the two WOLFS' father and son, Albert McKay and Douglas DILLON, all Treaty Indians of the Union Lake Band, were not present and available on such short notice. It should be said, too, upon calling Joseph PAHTAYKAN it was evident upon being questioned that he was not fit mentally to give evidence. Ivan McDONALD, Treaty Indian was sworn and acted as interpreter.

16. It was obvious during proceedings that the natives were withholding certain information, particularly so with Mrs.Philip PAHTAYKAN and her daughter Mrs.Isadore HORSE, it is considered that this was due to the swiftness of events and partly to native fear. This could be instanced by Mrs. Isadore HORSE, this girl went as far as Grade VIII at the Anglican School, Union Lake, she speaks and understands English, but would only speak through the interpreter at the proceedings. Evidence given by this woman and her mother established clearly that there had been a quarrel at the PAHTAYKAN house sometime during the early afternoon of the 30th. Neither witness could say what the quarrel was about although they stated that they were present when it started. Also present had been Adam QUINNEY aged 12 years and his little sister Emma MASSON about 8 years. This quarrel according to the two witnesses Mrs.PAHTAYKAN and daughter Mrs.Isadore HORSE was between DAMAS MASSON and his wife Genvive. The quarrel between MASSON and his wife reached the stage where MASSON advanced towards his wife with a brush-axe, and at this point according to the two women witnesses they ran from the house, leaving MASSON with his wife. Shortly afterwards MASSON came out of the house alone, and about this time Simon MASSON arrived with Philip PAHTAYKAN with a load of wood. Entering the house shortly after this with Simon MASSON and Philip PAHTAYKAN, the two women saw Mrs. MASSON lying on the floor by the bed in the north west corner of the room. They described the condition that they then saw her in, with the cuts on her head and blood coming from them, and in unconscious condition.

17. Philip PAHTAYKAN described being met by his wife on the afternoon of the 30th, when arriving with a load of wood, and his wife telling him that Damas MASSON had killed his wife Genvive. This witness also described the condition of Mrs.MASSON and seeing Damas MASSON, before the latter left the house.

18. Simon MASSON son of accused Damas MASSON in his evidence also described condition that he found his

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