

Many witnesses were examined on both sides—the enquete lasted seven full court days. [Here the judge makes a full perusal of the defendant's evidence.]

It is unnecessary for me to go further into detail of the defendant's evidence. Four days were occupied in the examination of this witnesses, all of whom were more or less intimate with Paquet; some of whom were his intimate friends, associates in business enterprises, fellow aldermen of Levis, and members of his family. They all swore that his condition of mind, evidenced by the acts committed by him for several weeks before his interdiction, was, in their opinion, entirely unsound. He had been a cool shrewd business man. He became extravagant in his habits, easily excited, and violent in his language and conduct; he was possessed of gigantic schemes which would have required millions of dollars to execute, all tending to show his mind was unbalanced.

Those who did not know him so well as others, at first, attributed it all to the use of intoxicants. Afterwards, however, they became convinced that he was insane (fou). Some of them did notice that he had been drinking, but with one or two exceptions they swore he was not intoxicated.

Plaintiff adduced much evidence also. It tends to establish and explain that Paquet's acts in question, his exaggerated beliefs as to his wealth, etc., were due to the use of intoxicating liquors—that he was either actually intoxicated at the time he committed some of these acts, or that his conduct was the result of the inordinate use of intoxicating liquors for a greater or lesser period.

[The judge here examined the evidence of plaintiff and commented unfavourably upon it.]

I am of opinion the evidence establishes that Paquet was