

ATTEMPTED SELF-MURDER CHARGED.

Against Helen Holden, by the North West Mounted Police.

Out on Large Bonds Until Wednesday—Saturday's Evidence Reproduced—The Nugget's Report of the Case Being Borne Out.

On Saturday last Helen Holden was arraigned before Magistrate Harper, charged with attempted suicide. The first witness called was Arthur J. Chappell. His testimony showed that he went to the room of the woman because of having received a verbal message to come and see her if he came home early. He found her stretched upon the bed with a handkerchief over her mouth. He then removed the handkerchief and hurried to a neighboring room and told them to get cold water and strong coffee that they had better get the woman awake and keep her so. Returned to the room in one or two seconds and found the handkerchief again across the face. Removed it again and found the bottle of chloroform on the bed. Got an idea right then that she was probably shamming. Didn't know if the woman was really conscious or not. Remained in the room until the doctor came. Had seen the woman at 5 or 6 p. m. the same day and she had complained of face-ache. Had never received a written message from her in his life.

Dr. Simpson had been summoned to the Melbourne very hurriedly. On entering the room of Helen Holden, saw her talking to a woman. Spoke to her himself but received no answer. Detected the smell of chloroform in the room. Found her drowsy and proceeded to examine eyes, pulse and respiration. Found she was not suffering from chloroform coma and asked her what narcotic she had been taking. When he asked her whether she had taken the chloroform internally, she replied, "No!" and remarked that they were making a great fuss about nothing. Told those present that she was hysterical and gave her a hypodermic injection of strychnine to stimulate the heart, and before leaving gave her some morphine to quiet her and put her to sleep. Yes, he had seen letter left by the defendant and had read most of it over King's shoulder, but could not remember it verbatim. It was to Chappell and contained instructions as to the disposal of the woman's money, diamonds and jewelry. After funeral expenses were paid the balance was to be sent to a son or sons in Colorado. The address in Colorado was to someone named Straum. Said she was tired of life in Dawson. Witness did not read or had forgotten what she said was the particular cause of the act. King had afterwards told him he had destroyed the letter, but witness had seen no litter as of a torn letter upon the floor. On cross-examination witness said that King had remarked to him: "Here's a letter she has left." Did not know where he found it. There were four or five drachms gone from the bottle of chloroform, which would be about 300 drops. Thirty drops had been known to kill by inhalation.

Dr. Sutherland had been called in and found Dr. Simpson in the room when he got there but had not recognized him. Had not noticed any smell of chloroform, but defendant appeared hysterical and had been crying. She remarked as he came in: "How do you do?"

Murray R. King is the young fellow with whom defendant had had her last conversation so far as is known and who tore up the letter. He proved a most troublesome witness and either could not or would not remember anything. Whatever was drawn out of him was done by questions. He volunteered nothing, and a favorite answer was: "I don't remember." However, the following was secured: Had seen Helen in the morning and made an appointment for dinner at 5 o'clock. Had seen her again at 5 o'clock, but thought she went to dinner alone because he was too full. Didn't remember if he had ever missed other appointments with her. Didn't remember fully when he saw her again. Don't know what she said to him before going to dinner. Remembered that she had been indignant before when he had gone in full. Thought he left the room about 9 o'clock, but admitted she had returned first. Didn't remember where he went when he went out. Yes, he had gone down the streets. Yes, he went into the Tivoli. Yes, he went into Cad Wilson's box. Yes, he went into other boxes and other buildings. Didn't know who sent for him. Didn't know why he went. Thinks someone took him to the Melbourne. Didn't remember what he did or said when he got there. Didn't smell chloroform. Believes he remembered having a letter. Didn't know where he got it. Didn't know what was in it. Didn't know what was in it. Didn't know who it was from. Didn't know who it was to. Didn't remember whether it was printed or written, on one sheet or two, on note paper or pad. Remembered one word—"Chappell." Witness afterward agreed to admit that the letter was written not printed. After contending for a long time that he didn't know he had destroyed a letter nor the motives for the act, admitted he destroyed it to conceal its contents. Sergeant-Major Linderman had been with him at the room all afternoon and had left when he did.

Druggist Schoff remembered the defendant buying the chloroform about 5, 6 or 7 p. m. on the day of the supposed attempt at suicide. She had wanted it to clean a silk waist and had signed the register for it. She had not appeared excited or troubled.

Mrs. Humphreys knew little or nothing about the case, and it was continued until Wednesday, January 4th, at 2 p. m. Helen went her own recognizance for \$1000, Chappell another \$1000, and Chappell and Harry Hamburg another \$1000 between them.

A Brave Girl.

"I've heard that there are microbes in kisses," he said.
"Disease-breeding terrible germs which anger their way through the dear kisses head—
Wee, infinitesimal worms."
She snuggled up closer against his white vest. He heard her assuringly croon.
In voice that set all apprehension at rest: "Fire away, darling, I'm an immune."

Charges Against Canadian Women.

The Winnipeg Tribune says that at Montreal, at the Anglican synod the Rev. Mr. Williams who brought up the matter of the low birth rate of Ontario, said that while the motion provoked laughter, he had brought the matter up in all seriousness. After alluding to the steady decrease of the birth rate in France, Mr. Williams said in Ontario they had reason to pause and ask themselves whether they were drifting. In Ontario, in 1893, the birth-rate per 1,000 was 19.8; in 1894, 19.2; in 1895, 18.8; in 1896, 20.7. In England and Wales the rate per 1,000 was, in 1893, 30.8; in 1895, 30.5, and in much-abused France 21.2. The rate in Quebec in 1894 was 50.5 and in 1896 oscillated between 36 and 40.

During the past year he said he sent a series of letters to about one hundred people throughout Ontario, to superintendents of hospitals, bishops and leading men, asking to what cause they would attribute the condition of affairs in Ontario. Generally speaking they attributed the low birth rate to five or six causes. One was defective registration.

Superintendent of hospitals and medical practitioners were uniform in the causes, stating that the low rate was due to causes over which persons have absolute control, and questions involving grave moral issues—that involved such questions as ultimate murder. Mr. Williams caused quite a sensation by reading a letter from a Toronto gentleman, who stated that there was no town or city in Canada in which there were not women in good standing doing things they ought not to do, and that hundreds of women in Toronto had at one time or another been guilty of something of this kind. Mr. Williams refused to say whom the letter was from.

The superintendent of a city hospital in western Ontario said the practice prevailed to an alarming extent and that the rearing of children was considered too heavy a burden, and the highest function of a woman was sacrificed to personal ease. There were other causes, materialistic views of life, social and economic views of life, such as migration of young men to the north west and the employment of women in stores and elsewhere, driving men to other fields and thus lessening the marriage rate, which in Ontario was far below that of any country that has kept a record.

Mr. Williams also referred to the death rate in Ontario, and to the fact that nearly half the deaths were of children under five years of age. He also referred to the ravages of consumption. He moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the subject and report to the next meeting of the synod.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

OUTSIDE BY THE NUGGET EXPRESS.

A Splendid Team and Fast Time Will Be Made.

On Sunday morning last the Nugget Express extended its already extensive service on Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Dominion and Sulphur creeks, by sending to Dyea its initial trip. This was contemplated for some time, but owing to the continued reports coming from up the river of the then unsatisfactory condition of the trail, and much open ice, it was deemed best by the proprietors, Messrs. E. C. Allen and Walter C. Watrous, not to inaugurate the system until such time as the system could be continued with some degree of regularity and certainty of landing their passengers on the coast. The first of the year appeared to be a propitious moment, for the extreme cold of the close of December had hardened up the trail, where it had been soft or open and indicated that good speed could be made. Accordingly the first trip was as stated arranged to leave Dawson January 1, and scarcely had the announcement been made that two passengers could be accommodated than immediate application was made, and by two gentlemen who fully understood the responsibility of the Express. These were Dr. H. W. Yeamans, the agent of the Empire Transportation Co. in this city who goes on an extended though hurried trip to the principal cities of the States and Europe, and Mr. J. W. Balbriggan, who returns to his home on a visit and both of whom will return in the spring.

A splendid team of dogs was procured, thoroughly broken to trail work and selected for their exceptional staying qualities and intelligence, and as the hour of leaving approached a large crowd gathered on the water front to see the first basket sled of the Nugget Express depart for the coast, a journey of about 600 miles. Such were the arrangements so nicely perfected that with the exception of about 100 pounds, no provisions were carried and that only for any possible emergency arising en route. Accompanying the party was one of the proprietors, Mr. W. C. Watrous, who has been in this country for the past four years, familiar with the necessities of the traveller on the trail and interested largely in mining interests both here and on the American side.

It is expected that not more than 15 days will be consumed in reaching Dyea, which will put the party in Seattle in 20 days from the time of leaving Dawson. The next team will leave on or about January 15th and for which arrangements will be as ample and thorough as the last. Any desiring to book for this trip should arrange immediately at the Nugget Express office in the Phoenix.

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