

42ND YEAR. NO. 17494

THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1905.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

WILLIS IN THE SWEAT BOX FOR TWO HOURS;
STOUTLY ADHERES TO HIS ORIGINAL STORY

Aldboro Farmer Closely Questioned Regarding His Movements On the Night of the Lowery Murder.

Dr. Harvey Saw Drunken Man
Near the Covell Home About
11 p.m. on Tuesday.Willis Contradicted by Witnesses
at Inquest—Point Strongly
in His Favor.Mrs. Covell Examined by Detective
Greer—Fails to Throw
New Light on Mystery.

The plot thickens in the Lowery murder case.

It was thought that with the arrival of the detectives from Toronto, much of the mystery which has surrounded the brutal killing of the aged woman near Rodney would be swept away, but, though Detective Greer, known as one of the most astute officers in Canada, has been on the case 24 hours, nothing has been cleared up.

At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon a detective was sent for Alex. Willis, who was brought to the Patterson House, Rodney. In a room upstairs he was questioned minutely as to his whereabouts on the night of the murder, but it is understood he adhered to his original story in every detail. Then he was searched by the detectives, but though his clothing was the same as that which he is positively known to have worn for some time, not a trace of anything suspicious was found.

Still, the detectives thought they had much to base their suspicions on when they brought Willis in from the country, and though the man has not been actually under arrest, he was under surveillance, and his name was pretty freely used by many people in the village. But though this was the case, no person has been able to advance a reason why he should be implicated in the crime.

Many Stories in Circulation.

Yesterday many stories filled the air. One of these was to the effect that Mrs. Covell had somewhat changed her story as told at the inquest. The detectives and several newspaper men made a trip to her home, and she is alleged to have said that when she began to think over the matter after her assault had left the house, she had thought of Willis as the man, and she is further alleged to have said to the detectives that she trusted that for his own sake and the sake of his family, Willis was not the man.

Her husband was with her at the time, and kept prompting her to tell all she knew, and when she again repeated the horrible story of the murder and assault, his anger almost overcame him and he vowed vengeance against the despoiler of his home.

It was hinted, too, in some quarters, that Mrs. Covell was not anxious to say anything which might be used against Willis. It appears that when her first husband, Anderson Baker, died, some years ago, the parents of Alexander Willis resided in a house some 200 yards from the present Covell residence, which was then, as now occupied by Mrs. Covell. She was afraid to live alone, and the Willis family was extraordinarily kind to her. Mrs. Willis, mother of Alexander, finally giving her a room in the house, where she lived for some years. Consequently the Willis children were to Mrs. Covell, or Mrs. Baker, as she was then known, almost as her own. When it was suggested to her that Willis might be the man, the old woman is

said to have declared that she would rather than believe that he was the guilty party.

Whether Mrs. Covell could tell more than she has already told is a question which is now agitating the detectives, and the latter hope that if anything is being held back, it will be revealed at once, so that a just punishment may be meted out to the guilty party, no matter who he may prove to be.

Important Clue Furnished.

An extremely important clue was furnished the detectives today by Dr. Harvey, a Rodney dentist. Dr. Harvey was walking home on the night of the murder and was on the road which passes Mrs. Covell's house. It was about a quarter of 11, and the moon was shining brightly. As he reached the gate of the Covell home, he saw a man cut across the road diagonally. Whether this man came out of the Covell gate, or whether he merely crossed the road, Dr. Harvey was unable to tell the detectives, but at all events he met the man directly in front of the Covell home. The man appeared to be bent on intercepting the doctor, and the latter paused and waited for him to come on. As the stranger approached in the moonlight, the doctor said that he staggered and lurched from side to side as though very drunk. Then the stranger addressed Dr. Harvey.

"Hello, there, where are you going?" he shouted.

His left hand was buried deep in his pocket, and the doctor thought he had a club in his hand.

Dr. Harvey said "good night" and walked on and he saw no more of the stranger. In the moonlight he was able to discern that the man wore a derby hat, with a dent in the crown, and a long, dark overcoat. As far as Dr. Harvey was able to judge, the stranger was a comparatively young man, about 5 feet 10 inches in height, and rather slight in stature. He kept his face in the shadow, and the doctor was unable to get a look at his features. When he addressed the doctor it was in a high-pitched voice.

To the detectives Dr. Harvey said he would not be able to swear to the man if he were to see him again. He thought no more of the matter until the hue and cry was raised regarding the murder of Eliza Lowery.

This clue is, of course, very important, but it does not afford the detectives the satisfaction it would were Dr. Harvey able to identify the man he saw coming down the road.

Would Not Swear to Willis.

Detective Greer also closely questioned Mrs. Covell again late yesterday afternoon, but she could not be made to state that she was ready to swear that Willis is the man the police are looking for. Her husband was very plain-spoken on the subject, however, and Mrs. Covell beseeched him to do no person any harm. It is said that she is of a very religious turn of mind, and that she is disposed to allow Providence to deal with the scoundrel.

"His punishment will come soon enough," she said.

It is said that the latest story gleaned by the police from Mrs. Covell differs somewhat from that told at the inquest, and if this is true it may be that the police have been furnished with a new clue to work upon, even though it may relate to the same parties against whom suspicion has already been directed.

In this connection it is alleged that Mrs. Covell now says that when Willis called at her home in February last to tell her a load of wood he questioned her particularly as to whether she was living at home, and she became somewhat alarmed at his questioning. If this story be true it will most decidedly have a very important bearing upon the case.

Speaking of the case yesterday Dr. Dorland, the coroner, said to The Advertiser that as far as he was able to perceive, Mrs. Covell was under no restraint when she gave her testimony.

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NO ZEMSTVOS MEETING

Czar Issues Order Prohibiting the Gathering of Delegates.

St. Petersburg, April 20.—The Government has sent a circular note to the provincial governors directing them to prevent the departure of the delegates to the proposed congress of the zemstvos on May 7, their meeting having been prohibited.

KALAEFF NOT THE MAN

Rumor Now Says He Did Not Assassinate Sergius.

Moscow, April 20.—It is strongly rumored that Kalaeff, the man, condemned to death as the assassin of the Grand Duke Sergius, is not the real criminal, and there is a growing belief that the sentence will be commuted.

New Milling Concern.

Montreal, April 20.—A report is current that financial interests connected with the Ogilvie Flour Mill Company intend organizing a good company with a capital of from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 for the purpose of building elevators but the Canadian Northwest and flour mills in Great Britain.

Frank Mine Aired?

Toronto, April 20.—A private message received in the city today says the Frank Mine, at Frank, Alberta, is one fire. No details are given, but it is the opinion here that none of the workmen are in the mine.

Mr. Gourlay Better.

Halifax, April 20.—A Truro special says: "Reports from friends who have visited the residence of Mr. S. B. Gourlay, ex-M. P., state that he is much relieved as the result of the operation performed yesterday. The Colchester Sun says that his chances for permanent recovery are good. Interest in his case is increasing, and widespread sympathy and regret are expressed."

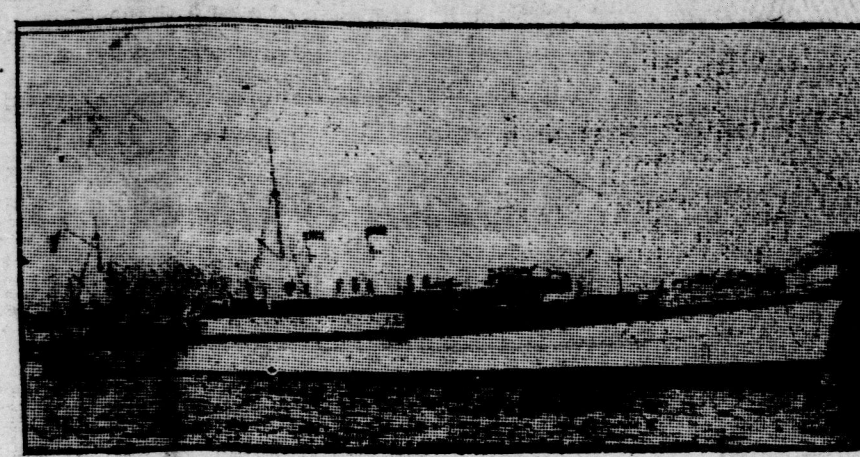
Youth Confesses; Robert Proctor Must
Now Stand Trial on Charge of Murder

Said to Have Robbed Circus Employee and Thrown Him Under a Train in July Last.

"Pal" of Proctor, at Present in St. Thomas Jail, "Peaches"—Another Implicated.

In the midst of the outburst of public indignation caused by the awful crime committed near the village of Rodney Wednesday morning, comes the revelation of a tragedy almost as terrible. On the morning of Saturday, July 9, 1904, the half mangled remains of Clifton Loomis, a Cleveland man, were found on the tracks of the Grand Trunk, four miles west of Hyde Park. It was thought at the time that Loomis' death was due to accident, and the public mind of Middlesex, which had been aroused with suspicions of all kinds, was lulled into quietude by a verdict of accidental death, delivered by a coroner's jury of the village of Melrose, near Komoka. But the far-reaching, restless hands of criminal justice kept working in quiet activity, and now, after the lapse of nine months, the supposed murderer lies in the county jail. He is a colored man, Robert Proctor by name, and the tender conscience of a boy, who says he was with Proctor on the night Loomis met his death, is responsible for the latest developments. The officer, who has been unceasingly working on the case is Provincial Detective Greer.

It will be remembered that the morning after the Forepaugh and Sells circus left this city in July, the body of an unknown man was found beside the G. T. R. tracks, about a stone's throw this side of Komoka. Several of the pockets in the clothing had been turned inside out, indicating that the man had been robbed. A jack-knife, a bunch of keys, 85 cents in change and an empty pocketbook were discovered in other pockets. There was a gaping wound on the head, and both legs and one of the arms had been cut off. The remains were those of a man about 25 years of age with light complexion, mustache and blue eyes. Suspicions of foul play were aroused, and Dr. C. C. Ross, coroner, of Hyde Park, was at once notified. The circus people were

RUSSIAN HOSPITAL SHIP ORFEL.
Detached From Rojstevsky's Fleet at With Sick Men Landed at the French Port of Saigon in Cochinchina.HILL PARDONED
AND RELEASED

St. Thomas Merchant Recently Sentenced for Sixty Days a Free Man.

Toronto, April 20.—J. B. Hill, the St. Thomas merchant, who was recently sentenced by Judge Winchester to 60 days' imprisonment without hard labor, for obtaining goods on credit, knowing himself to be insolvent, has been discharged from custody. Governor Van Zant today received word from Ottawa that Hill had been pardoned, and the latter was accordingly at once released.

Look for Hot Time.

Toronto, April 20.—The C. L. A. convention will be held tomorrow at the Labor Temple. The council will meet at 9 a.m., and the association at 10:30. The prospects are for a large attendance and a hot time at the convention tomorrow. The senior clubs threaten to pull out from the C. L. A. if too onerous conditions are imposed.

POWERS TO SETTLE
MOROCCO MUDDLE

Germany Decides That the Position of France Is Unsatisfactory.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Berlin, April 20.—The newspapers do not regard the statements made in the Chamber of Deputies by Foreign Minister Delcasse, as giving a new or satisfactory turn to the Moroccan situation. At the same time it accepts President Rouvier's assertion that France stood ready to consider any proposition that Germany might make as conciliatory. The newspapers profess themselves ready to wait a further step on the part of France, but some of the uninspired journals harp on the expediency of an international conference to settle the question. It is believed that Germany has decided to initiate an official exchange of views between the signatories of the Madrid treaty of 1880, and the view to the holding of an international conference in Morocco. It is officially announced that this step is taken because of France's overtures on the subject are unsatisfactory.

INTERNED RUSSIAN CRUISERS
PREPARING TO GO TO SEA

Warship Driven Into Shanghai by Togo Reported To Be Coaling and Remounting Her Guns.

FLEET LEFT KAMRANH BAY THURSDAY MORNING

[Special to The Advertiser.]
London, April 20.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post says that the Russian cruiser Askold, which is interned at that port, coaled on Thursday. She has been painted to resemble an American warship. The correspondent adds that it has been ascertained that the breech blocks and other mechanisms that were removed when the Askold was disarmed, have been duplicated. A plan has been engaged for her. Five Chinese warships have been ordered to watch the cruiser. Shanghai is the headquarters of the Russian intelligence department, which is directing the movements of the Baltic fleet.

London, April 21.—It is impossible to learn definitely whether the Baltic fleet is still at Kamranh Bay. In Tokyo it is believed that it is, while in Paris its presence there is denied. An English correspondent in Paris quotes Foreign Minister Delcasse as saying in the lobby of the Chamber that the fleet left the Annam coast Thursday morning.

Tokyo, April 20.—5 p.m.—The reply of France to the protest of Japan against the Russian squadron using Kamranh Bay, has not been received in Tokyo, but is expected shortly.

The statement that the cabinet and the elder statesmen, after a conference, had forwarded a protest, is incorrect. France was approached through the usual diplomatic channels.

The officials here are not certain whether the Russians are still at Kamranh Bay, although they were reported to be there yesterday.

TORONTO TO OTTAWA

Prominent Men Present Railway Project to the Legislature.

Toronto, April 20.—A bill was introduced in the Ontario Legislature this afternoon for an act incorporating the Toronto, Ottawa and French River Railway Company. The company proposes to build from Toronto to Ottawa, through York, Northumberland, Lennox, Addington, Lanark and Carleton Counties. They also propose a branch from a point on Georgian Bay, near French River, connecting with their main line. The capital stock is \$1,000,000. Toronto men are the principal directors.

A Rough Experience.

Montreal, Que., April 20.—Joseph Perron, aged 25 years, was knocked senseless on Tuesday night, by a burglar, amounting to \$5, stolen, and his body thrown into the river at the foot of Nicolet street in the east end. The cold water revived him and his cries resulted in his rescue. Perron's nose was broken and he is in a bad way from his experience.

A SECOND TRIP
TO HUDSON'S BAY

Government Fitting Out the Neptune for a Trip to Polar Regions.

Ottawa, April 20.—The Government has just closed with jobbers of St. Johns, Nfld., for a party for the steamer Neptune to proceed northward with another Hudson Bay expedition. The Neptune has just returned from the spring sailing voyage, and will be fitted out as soon as possible for the trip. The expedition will be in charge of Commander A. P. Low, who made such a successful voyage on the same steamer last season. This year, however, an earlier start will be made. The Neptune will sail from Halifax on the 1st of June. The earliest date of departure of any Government expedition yet sent into northern waters. The Neptune will carry supplies for the steamer Arctic, which wintered at Cape Fullerton, on the west coast of Hudson Bay. After that the two vessels will perform a summer patrol. The Neptune probably striking north of Barrow Strait, where the conditions seemed so favorable last August for making the northwest passage that Commander Low expressed regret that his instructions did not allow him to make the attempt.

Nobogoff at Sundra.

New York, April 20.—A dispatch to the American from Paris quotes a St. Petersburg dispatch to the Matin that Vice-Admiral Nobogoff's squadron has reached Sundra Straits on its way to join Rojstevsky in the China Sea.

Saloon, April 20.—Admiral Rojstevsky's fleet is still in Kamranh Bay. The French admiral, Jonquieres, has taken every step to insure neutrality.

Missed Querry and Decays.

St. Petersburg, April 20.—It is claimed here that Admiral Rojstevsky has not overstepped the French rules of neutrality at Kamranh Bay, the coaling and provisioning of the ships occurring outside territorial waters. Russia has not been advised that Japan has lodged a protest in Paris. The charges of Russia's violation of neutrality, coupled with the revival of the story that Russia intends to send her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles, and the report that the British Mediterranean fleet has been sent to the Aegean Sea to head off the Russian fleet, cause extreme irritation.

The Associated Press is again authorized to state that Russia has no

BRANCH TO ABBITIBI

Grand Trunk Pacific Will Run Line From There to Ottawa.

Montreal, Que., April 20.—General Manager Morse, of the Grand Trunk Pacific, announces that Ottawa will have connections with the main line of the new road, by way of a 225-mile branch connecting at Lake Abitibi.

Death of Jas. S. Morton.

Windsor, Ont., April 20.—Word was received here of the death of James S. Morton in Australia, where he went last spring for his health. Mr. Morton engaged in the hardware business in Windsor for twenty years. He was born in Scotland in 1840 and first settled in Brantford after coming to Canada. He was unmarried.

Crackmen Put to Flight.

Quebec, April 20.—Three unknown men made a determined attempt to burglarize the St. Raymond branch of the People's Bank of Halifax last night. The would-be burglars were vial to flight, and boarded a car, which was evidently in waiting, and escaped, striking Quebecwards at a lively speed.

AWAITS DECISION
OF PRIVY COUNCIL

Premier Whitney States His Position Re Sabbath Day Observance.

Toronto, April 20.—The following letter from Premier Whitney, concerning the passage of any Lord's Day legislation during the present session, was read at the meeting of the executive board of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance today:

"In view of the doubts which exist as to the jurisdiction of the Province with respect to Sunday legislation, it is not thought advisable to bring the matter before the Legislature at the present session. As you are aware, certain questions have been referred to the supreme court of Canada, and it is understood that it is the intention of the Dominion to carry the case to the Privy Council. Under these circumstances it is thought that it will be most expedient to wait until appeal to the Privy Council has been finally disposed of before passing any further legislation. It was stated that the Attorney-General of Ontario had decided, with the Minister of Justice, in application to the Privy Council, for leave to appeal against the supreme court judgment. Mr. J. K. MacDonaid was elected president of the alliance to succeed the late Principal Caven.

Quebec Embankment Wall
Crashed Into the Basin

Thousands of Tons of Earth Caved In, Doing Great Damage.

Quebec, Que., April 20.—The north embankment wall, being the inner basin of the Louise Dock, and the west end near the cross wall, caved in this afternoon at 12:50 o'clock, and the solid mass of facade, for a length of over 300 feet, and tons of earth, together with the railway tracks, running along the surface, fell with a roar into the basin. The cave-in was altogether unexpected, and it came without the

least warning. The masonry wall was first seen to bulge, and finally fall into the water, when thousands of yards of earth shoved into the basin. Fortunately, there was no people on that part of the embankment at the time, otherwise, they would have been carried into the water and, in all probability, drowned in the midst of the debris. The cause of the accident is unknown, but it is presumed that it is the outcome of the recent dredging of the inner basin, which has had the effect of undermining the wall, and caused the cave-in. The damage can be repaired, but it will cost the harbor commissioners a large sum. A schooner lying alongside the wall was badly damaged by the falling stones and partly sunk.

Clamor in Cretan House
For Union With Greeks

Island Chamber Takes Oath of Allegiance to the Hellenic Constitution.

Canoe, April 20.—Prince George of Greece, the high commissioner, today opened the Cretan Assembly with great ceremony. In his speech, the prince referred to the insurrection as a sad episode that was overshadowing order in the island. He thought that the powers would not acquiesce in the aims of the insurgents. Any armed rising would only estrange the sympathies of the civilized nations. When the prince left the Chamber the president

of the House read a proclamation which said:

"In the name of Almighty God the Cretan Chamber of Deputies votes and proclaims the union of Crete and Greece, in which Crete eternally form an inseparable part under the constitutional scepter of the King of Greece."

The Chamber acclaimed Prince George, in whom, it declared, it has complete confidence. It was resolved to ask him to forward the proclamation to the powers. All the deputies took the oath of allegiance to the Hellenic constitution in the King's name. It was also resolved that the deputies should head a popular procession and present each consul with a copy of the proclamation. A committee of the House proceeded to the palace and informed Prince George of the action taken. The prince's answer is unknown. There is great public excitement.

PAUL JONES' BODY

Corpse of Pirate Admiral of U. S. Placed in a Paris Church.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Paris, April 21.—After Doctors Capitan and Papillat had performed an autopsy on the body of Paul Jones (which was recently discovered through the efforts of Ambassador Porter), and measured it, the remains were re-clothed in the shirt and sheet in which they were found and replaced in the original leaden casket. This was inclosed in a new lead coffin with a plate of glass over the face and chest. The whole was inclosed in an oak coffin, and covered with the American flag. The body was then transferred to the vault of Holy Trinity Church in the Avenue Dalma, where it will remain until the American squadron arrives to take it back to the United States.

THE WEATHER.

Today—Showery and Cooler.

Toronto, April 20.—5 p.m.
Light rain has fallen today in Southern Ontario, and scattered showers have occurred in Quebec; while elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fair. Temperatures have remained much the same in all districts.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 14-44; Victoria, 46-80; Calgary, 32-60; Edmonton, 26-60; Qu'Appelle, 16-52; Winnipeg, 26-42; Port Arthur, 26-44; Parry Sound, 38-54; Toronto, 42-52; London, 38-54; Montreal, 38-54; Quebec, 32-58; St. John, 36-44; Halifax, 32-54.

FORECASTS.

Lower lakes and Georgian Bay: Fresh to strong easterly and northeasterly winds; rain in southern districts, and showers further north, becoming cooler.

ONLY THOSE who have had experience can tell the torture corns cause. Pain with your boots on, pain with them off, pain night and day, but relief is sure to those who use Holloway's Corn Cure.

MARCH MORTALITY

Two Points Lower Than Corresponding Month of Last Year.

Toronto, April 20.—The monthly report of the Provincial Board of Health for March shows 2,417 deaths in divisions representing a population of 1,946,271, making a mortality rate 14.9 in 1,000, this being two points lower than the corresponding period of last year. A marked reduction in smallpox is noted, as well as scarlet fever and diphtheria. There were 16 cases of smallpox, to 68 last year, while the mortality from scarlet fever has reached a much lower death rate, being 12.1 per cent, as compared with 17.5 per cent. Tuberculosis caused the same number of deaths as reported last year in March, being 300 or 65.5 per cent, of all the deaths caused by infectious diseases.