

MARY RANKIN DISCHARGED

Was Accused of Stealing From Pauline Franklin.

Amount Was From \$30 to \$35—All Parties Hail From Caribou on Dominion.

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily. Mary Rankin, charged with robbing Pauline Franklin of a purse containing \$30 to \$35 at her (Mary Rankin's) roadhouse at Caribou City on April 25th, was this morning dismissed by Justice Dugas without having to produce any defense, the evidence of the witnesses for the crown, not being sufficient to prove any charge against her.

The story of the robbery as told by Pauline Franklin when put on the witness stand was to the effect that on the afternoon of the 25th of April she and her friend Florence Burgess, both of whom live on Dominion, had gone out for a walk. They had stopped at the Gold Run and Driard hotels and also at Mrs. Rankin's and at each place they had indulged in different brands of liquid refreshments of a stronger character than "aqua pura" and while not what might be termed "drunk" she could not say they were sober.

While Mrs. Rankin was telling her fortune which she had asked her to do, Mrs. Rankin had fondled her a little, placed her arms around her and had her on her lap for a while and she thought that it was while this was transpiring that Mrs. Rankin had taken her purse.

On cross examination she stated that she had entered a bedroom which opened from the kitchen and in which was a man; that she had called her friend Florence to introduce her to the man; that she had been in the room alone with the man (whose name was not given) not longer than eight minutes. They had come out of the room together and shortly after he had gone away mad because he had not been served with a drink he had ordered. It was about five minutes before the man left when she discovered her loss. There was a stove in the kitchen next to the door to the bedroom which she said was about three yards away and where the remains of her purse was found. She thought it was impossible for the man to have thrown the purse in the stove as it was too far away from the door and as he came from the room with her. She had then gone with her friend to the home of Corinne Gray and from there to the police station where she lodged her complaint.

The evidence of Florence Burgess who was next called was practically the same, with the exception that she said they were both pretty well under the influence of liquor and that the stove instead of being three yards away from the door was about three feet, and that Pauline had not discovered her loss until after the man had gone. Alfred Cunningham, postmaster at Caribou, was then called and testified as to some change he had given Pauline a couple of days before the alleged robbery. Cross-examined by counsel for defense as to the general reputation of the defendant he said he had never heard a word against her character.

Constable Collin McNair, of the Dominion detachment N. W. M. P., was then called to the stand and said that on a complaint being made by Pauline Franklin he had searched the premises of Mrs. Rankin and found the top of a pocketbook and two dimes in the ashes of the stove. He had accused Mrs. Rankin of stealing the pocketbook which she denied and had said she would give \$500 if any evidence of it be found on the place.

This ended the case of the prosecution and after some argument on the part of Mr. Hagel, attorney for the defendant and Attorney Aikman who conducted the prosecution, the justice discharged the prisoner stating that while there was strong suspicion against the prisoner in finding the purse top and dimes in the stove, yet as long as there was a possibility have some one else could have put the purse there and the evidence showed that there were at least three persons who could have done so would have to dismiss the action. "This," he said, "is the beauty of our English law, that where there is the slightest possibility of a doubt it must invariably be turned in the favor of the prisoner at the bar."

Mad Dog Killed. A large brindle dog which was owned by a family residing on Sixth avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets, went mad yesterday while tied up. Every man in the neighborhood who owned a gun took a hand in the killing and while there was quite a fusillade at that part of the town in striking contrast to the usual Sunday quietude. The dog finally decided there were too many guns to combat and yielded to death. The animal being tied up, he was unable to do any harm after going mad.

The water in the Yukon river is rising very rapidly this afternoon and is almost high enough to float the Robert Kerr which has been stranded since the last ice jam passed by.

RANCHERS RETURN

Sonnicksou and Henry Visit Their Stewart River Farm.

Messrs. Sonnickson and Henry the pioneer ranchers of this territory returned Saturday evening from a three weeks' trip to their ranch 30 miles up the Stewart river.

Their ranch is situated at the base of a tricorned mountain upon which the sun shines almost continually, thawing the frost out of the ground and making it so far as known the best ground for farming purposes yet located in the territory.

Mr. Sonnickson in speaking of his place to a Nugget representative yesterday said:

"We left Dawson on the last day of April and got to our place over the ice and found everything in readiness to commence our season's work. The snow had all disappeared from the ground so we commenced plowing immediately. We have three plows each hauled by three horses at work and expect to have under cultivation this year 75 acres.

"Our crop will consist mostly of timothy and oats, millet and red top, but we will also have a couple of acres in potatoes and other vegetables.

"Last year we cut about 80 tons of hay but a good part of that was wild, which will not run more than one ton to the acre. Cultivated hay will average about two tons to the acre and as there is now no market for wild hay we will cut this year only our cultivated hay.

"We are erecting four new buildings on the place including a house, barn, kitchen and a blacksmith shop, which when completed will give our place the appearance of a well regulated western farm. We have six men at work and will have our crop planted in a very short time. We made the trip to Dawson in a canoe in 14 hours arriving late Saturday evening and we expect to leave on our return in a few days."

IRISH TURNS AND TWISTS.

The Unconscious Humor That Crops Out in the Green Isle.

The author of "Irish Life and Character" says truly that one has only to mix with an Irish crowd to hear many a laughable expression, quite innocently uttered. As the Duke and Duchess of York were leaving Dublin in 1897, amid enthusiastic cheering, an old woman remarked:

"Ah! Isn't it the fine reception they're gettin' goin' away?" In 1892 Dublin university celebrated its tercentenary, and crowds of visitors were attracted to the city. Two laborers, rejoiced at the general prosperity, expressed their feelings.

"Well, Tim," said one, "thim tarntarians does a dale for the thrade of Dublin, and no mistake."

"Oh, fah they do!" said the other. "And whin, with the blessin of God, we get home rule, sure we can have as many of thim as we please."

An old woman, seeing a man pulling a young calf roughly along the road, exclaimed:

"Oh, you bla'guard! That's no way to thrate a fellow crather."

"Sure," said a laborer to a young lady who was urging him to send his children to school, "I'd do anything for such a sweet, gentlemanly lady as yourself."

Again, the laborers on a large estate decided that it would be more convenient for them if they could be paid every week instead of every fortnight. One of their number was sent to place their proposition before the land agent, and this was his statement:

"If you please, sir, it's me desire, and it is also every other man's desire, that we resave out fortnight's pay livery week."

An exasperated sergeant, drilling a squad of recruits, called to them at last:

"Halt! Just come over here, all of ye, and look at yourselves. It's a fine line ye're keepin', isn't it?"

The Dry Battery. The dry battery, so called, has almost completely supplanted the older wet battery for electric bell work, etc., on account of its greater convenience and lack of the disagreeable, sloppy qualities possessed by its predecessor. Somebody has defined a dry battery as one that is always wet inside and a wet battery as one that often dries up. It is precisely so; the dry battery is permanently wet inside. It is generally made up of a zinc cylinder or cup, in which is supported a carbon stick or rod, surrounded by some porous substance, such as "excelsior" or other fiber, mineral wool or plaster of paris. This is saturated with the active chemical, sal ammoniac generally, in a solution made stiff with gelatin. The whole is then sealed with pitch or some similar compound and is ready for use. These batteries are made in vast quantities and so cheaply that when one becomes exhausted it is simply thrown away and replaced with a new one.

Scene Painting. A good scene painter may get anywhere from \$400 to \$1,000 for a scene. The average price paid to the best half dozen scene painters for a scene is \$500. But there are a great many more scene painters for \$100 than \$500.

As soon as a married man gets a comfortable home built he begins to worry his wife by talking about selling it.—Indianapolis Journal.

CARIBOUITES TO CELEBRATE

Will Observe Victoria Day in Grand Style.

All Varieties of Sports Will Take Place—\$500 Offered in Prizes—Excellent Program.

At Caribou, City on Dominion the people are alive to the fact that the 24th Victoria day, is a national holiday and they have completed all arrangements for laying aside dull care and observing it as it should be. The following is the program prepared with the various prizes offered for winners:

Foot races, horse races, jumping, vaulting, tugs of war, high kicking, tossing the caber, putting the shot, etc.

Committee in charge, D. J. Bell, M. D., chairman; D. E. Griffith, secretary; Constable Macnair, treasurer; T. Dodd, Wm. Randall.

Sports will begin at 3:30 p.m. sharp.

Foot race, 100 yards, first prize \$20, second \$10.

Sack race, 100 yards, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Horse race, quarter mile, first prize \$40, second \$20.

Pole vaulting, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Tossing the caber, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Putting the shot, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Tug of war (eight men a side), first prize \$40, second \$20.

Obstacle race, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Consolation prizes, first \$10, second \$5.

Intermission from 6 till 7 p.m.

Horses winning prizes in the first series will be debarked from participating in the second series.

Individuals composing prize winning teams in tug of war in first series are not eligible for competition in the second series.

200 yard foot races, first prize \$20, second \$10.

Three-legged race, 100 yards, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Horse race, half mile, first prize \$40, second \$20.

Children's races, \$30 in prizes.

Throwing the hammer, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Tug of war (eight men on a side), first prize \$40, second \$20.

Hop, step and jump, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Pack race, 100 yards (100 pounds), first prize \$10, second \$5.

Hand vaulting or high kicking, first prize \$10, second \$5.

Consolation prizes, first \$10, second \$5.

An entrance fee of \$10 will be charged for each horse entered for the races.

Four to enter, three to start. Entries for any of the events may be made until within 20 minutes before the time for calling the contest in question. In the consolation matches the laggards are to be tossed in a blanket.

Judges—Horse races, J. A. Stone, with Thos. Fourcraut starter; foot races, Thos. Graham, with Chas. DeLong and T. Donovan starters; children's races, W. Smith; vaulting and high kicking, Thos. White; long distance race, Tony Letray.

"SPARTACUS."

The Author's Story of How He Came to Write It.

A writer in the Lewiston Journal who interviewed Rev. Elijah Kellogg says:

When asked if he had written any declamations besides "Spartacus to the Gladiators," "Regulus to the Carthaginians," "Virgilus to the Roman Army" and "Pericles to the People," he replied that he had written "Icilius," but that it had never been published. Then he asked the writer if he had ever heard how "Spartacus" came to be written, and when told that he had never heard an authentic statement concerning it Mr. Kellogg said:

"During my first year in Andover Theological seminary we were required to write original declamations and declaim them before an audience. A committee of three seniors criticised the speaker publicly, and Professor Parke performed the same duty privately. I always dreaded to face an audience and especially to be criticised publicly, and so I thought I would write something that would so interest them in the story of it that the critics would forget to notice the errors; and so I wrote "Spartacus." When I had finished declaiming it, the professor asked the committee if they had any suggestions to offer, and they said they had not, but Professor Parke told me privately that there were errors that might be mentioned, but that he was glad I had made a departure from the old, custom of declaiming nothing but sermons and moral disquisitions and had given them some rhetoric."

So the author of "Spartacus" was the first declaimer of it. Little did he think that he was the first of thousands of academic and collegiate youths on both sides of the sea to recite a composition of so humble origin. This bit of literary history is precious as coming from the lips of this grand old man, and this interview will forever have a safe place in the treasure house of the writer's memory.

AN EYE TO BUSINESS

Indian Woman Does Some Mathematical Work.

An Indian woman from Moosehide went into the parlors of one of our well known dressmaker establishments and asked the price of a sun bonnet. She was told the price which seemed very satisfactory and left her order. A couple of days afterward she returned for the bonnet and asked the lady in charge if she wouldn't take a basket or a pair of moccasins or some of the other trinkets which she had made in exchange for the bonnet, to which the lady replied that she wasn't doing business on that basis. The Indian then turned to her with a dark scowl on her face and said, "White woman price too high, she buy cloth 50 cents, buy thread 25 cents, have machine to sew bonnet, then charge big price. Indian make cloth, sew with needle, sell cheap; white woman no trade; umph! fizz, boom! And with that she shot out of the door, and has not been seen since.

The Breach of Promise Record. Many records of different kinds have been broken of late, but it will take a long time indeed to break the one that has just been made by the Bavarian gentleman, Mr. Alois Frankenberg, remarks the New York Sun. His case came up the other day in the assizes court of Gratz, Austria, in which the testimony against him, the truth of which was admitted by himself, footed up a total of 120 cases of breaches of promises to marry. Young girls, old maids, widows, brunettes and blonds, fat and lean, long and short, all figured in his gigantic dossier. And yet his mode of procedure was simple enough. After he had spent a fortune of 100,000 marks leading a wild life in different countries he returned to Gratz penniless.

His last resource lay in his good looks and winning ways. He put an advertisement in several papers inviting ladies desiring to marry "a gentleman of fortune" to put themselves in communication with him. And they did. His bonnet fortunes were phenomenal, even though his "fortune" was fictitious. In a short time he had sweethearts galore, and to buy furniture for nice flats in their castles in Spain, he obtained money from them. That is what brought him into trouble. After sparking all that was profitably sparkable in Gratz he abandoned his beloved ones in that town and set up in business as a matrimonial merchant in Munich, where his success was still more extraordinary. Then he returned to Gratz, where he was denounced, arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for two years and six months with hard labor.

The Old Time Shipbuilder.

The man with the broadax is gradually disappearing. He is very hard to find in Canada, but a few of his tribe are still scattered along the New England coast, mainly on the Kennebec. It is probable the tribe will die out on the spot where the first blow of the broadax was struck. The man with the rivet is the next step in marine evolution. He is a noisy fellow, just a part of a machine, and he can never replace the quiet, contemplative philosopher in the red shirt and overalls who stood in the American shipyard in days that are past.—Boston Herald.

How to Give a Cat Medicine.

A New York gentleman has a very fine Angora cat, and so fine a specimen of her kind that she is famous in a large circle of fashionable folk. She is not rugged in health, yet she cannot be persuaded to take physic. It has been put in her milk, it has been mixed with her meat, it has even been rudely and violently rubbed in her mouth, but never has she been deluded or forced into swallowing any of it. Last week a green Irish girl appeared among the household servants. She heard about the failure to treat the cat. "Sure," said she, "give me the medicine and some lard, and I'll warrant she'll be atting all I give her!" She mixed the powder and the grease and smeared it on the cat's sides. Pussy, at once licked both sides clean and swallowed all the physic. "Faith," said the servant girl, "everybody in Ireland does know how to give medicine to a cat!"

Reading a Book.

A writer in the New York Medical Journal says that the curved pages of the ordinary book are injurious to the eye of the reader. The curvature necessitates a constant change of the focus of the eye as it reads from one side to another, and the ciliary muscles are under a constant strain. Moreover, the light falls unequally upon both sides of the page, further interfering with a continued clear field of vision. It is suggested that the difficulty might be obviated if the lines should be printed parallel to the binding instead of at right angles to it.

Golf.

The game of golf was put down by an act of parliament in Scotland in 1841 as a nuisance. Then fines were inflicted on people who were found guilty of playing the game, for it interfered with the practice of archery, as men preferred wielding the club to pulling the bow.

An Exception.

In the treatment of skin diseases it is said that the rays of the sun are quite efficacious. They can't cure freckles, however.—Bradford Era.

Assistant Gold Commissioner J. Langlois Bell returned Saturday from an extended trip over the creeks.

JACOBS' MEAN ENGLISHMAN

The Word "Mean" Not Used in Floral Sense.

How He Lives, What He Earns and How It Is Expended—Simple Life of Average Man.

"The Mean Englishman" is the title which Mr. Joseph Jacobs has given to his suggestive study in the Fortnightly Review. But he uses "mean" in the mathematical, not the moral sense. He distinguishes "mean" from "average" by saying that "the average is an ideal calculated figure, the mean a concrete example." He begins with the remark:

"When we think of the typical Englishman, we probably combine together in our minds Lord Kitchener, Mr. Kipling, Mr. C. B. Fry, and (perhaps) Canon Gore."

But these eminent exceptions can scarcely form a basis for generalizing. So Mr. Jacobs makes an attempt to "sum up all those qualities of the mean Englishman which can be conveniently put in a quantitative form," and presents a picture of the type which English civilization is turning out today.

Arranging all Englishmen according to the size of the town in which they live, the writer finds half of them dwell in cities of above 30,000 inhabitants and half in towns of less size. So the mean Englishman will live in a town of 30,000 population. By "crediting the center of each county with the number of square miles it contains," he finds that "the center of gravity of the 40 English counties is somewhere in the neighborhood of Warwick." He finds the center of the population to be in the northwest Midlands, in the neighborhood of Hinckley. Loughborough in Leicestershire, with a population of 30,931, is therefore chosen as the abode of the mean Englishman. Arranging all heads of English families according to their income, the mean man, or "the fiftieth percentile," would fall within the artisan class and would be receiving about 30s a week nominal wages, which, allowing for an average of weeks out of work, would amount to a real wage of 24s 9d (about \$5) a week.

Proceeding on the basis of statistics of various kinds, the writer ventures on this biography past and future of his imaginary hero:

William Sprogett was born at Loughborough on January 12, 1864. His father was born in the same town, but his mother migrated thither from the country. He was married on August 20, 1892, at the age of 28 years 6 months, to Jane Davies (of Celtic descent), born also at Loughborough on January 18, 1866, and therefore 26 years 6 months of age. Her father had come thither from the Welsh borders. They were married in church, which Sprogett then visited for the first time since his boyhood. In the seven years since that critical period they have had five children—three boys and two girls. One of the boys has died in the interim, and I regret to have to prophesy that the girl that is still to come will die before she attains five years of age. Sprogett left school in 1875, when he was 11 years of age and in the fourth standard, and his wife in 1878, when 12 and in the fifth standard. Only his eldest boy is at present at school. He is a bright lad, quite up to the average, but the other boy, I regret to say, will show signs of nerve trouble when he comes to school age.

"Our hero is five feet seven inches in height and 150 pounds in weight. He can pull 70 pounds when in the attitude of drawing the long bow, and his chest girth is no less than 36 inches. Jane, his wife, is naturally inferior to him in all these categories, being only 62 inches in height, 120 pounds in weight, and can pull only 40 pounds. Both are of the same physical type, known to anthropologists as the 'C.' or 'Anglo-Saxon' type.

"Notwithstanding their meagre diet (of which we shall hear anon), their habit is stout and well covered. On the whole they are tolerably healthy. William has only had eight days of sickness in the last year, and will live on till the age of 68, when he will die on March 15, 1932, of a disease connected with the nervous system. Jane will survive him nearly three years and die of bronchitis.

"Sprogett is in a hosiery manufactory, and began work as we have seen, at his trade at 11 years of age. He is (as we have also seen) at present earning 24s 9d a week, to which high emolument he has reached after having commenced on 6d a day. Mrs. Sprogett's housekeeping money would probably be 15s. He works 54 hours a week, and notwithstanding the claims of his family, he has managed to save no less than £21 (average), which is securely placed in the Postoffice Savings Bank."

From returns of "family budgets," the writer informs us precisely that the Sprogett family spends each week out of its exiguous income 13s 7½d on food and drink (including 10s on alcoholic drinks), 3s 6d on rent, 8d on insurance, and on other items 6s 11½d.

Mr. Jacobs goes on to estimate that Mr. Sprogett is probably the member of a trade union, or at least a benefit society. He "lives in a house of four rooms, two of which are at present used as bed rooms, one as a kitchen, and one as a living room." His capitalized value to the nation would be about £400 (£2000). He sends on an average every year 55 letters, 10 postcards, and 23 newspapers.

He voted at the first general election after receiving a vote, but will probably vote never again in any election, local or national. He does not take any daily paper, except occasionally a sporting sheet. His library consists of a Bible and prayer book (his wife's) and a few odd numbers of *Virtue's*, *"Shakespeare"* and Cassell's *"Popular Educator."* As a rule he bets.

"Sprogett does not wear a collar, except occasionally a paper one on high days and holidays; the neckerchief is the mark of all his tribe. He does not use a tooth brush or handkerchief (except the latter for carrying his midday meal), but he generally gets shaved Saturday night."

The writer concludes of his hero: "It is he that has to bear the white-man's burden in the long run. It is up to his standard that we are aiming to raise the dusky nations."

Mr. Jacobs' paper may perhaps supply a hint to novelists in search of a plot and not afraid of hard statistical investigation. Now, will somebody write the history of the "mean American" after this method?—Review of Reviews.

Bricks for Seattle.

The first contract for the shipping of bricks to any Sound city for building purposes has been awarded by a Seattle contractor to Elford & Smith. The contract calls for 400,000 bricks, and it will take four full scows to carry the required amount to Seattle. The brick business in Victoria is at present very brisk, but Mr. Elford, when seen this morning, stated that in Seattle it was hard to procure bricks. The companies were turning them out as fast as possible—in fact working night and day—but they found it impossible to supply the demand.

The particular contractor from whom Elford & Smith received their order is building a large brick establishment, and on going to the Seattle brick yards to order the material, he was told that he would have to wait his turn. He then figured how much it would cost him to bring bricks from Victoria. He found that prices here in the first place were very much lower than in Seattle. The price in Seattle is \$11 a thousand, while in this city it is \$7 a thousand. The duty is \$1.75 a thousand, and counting up other expenses in shipping, the total price of obtaining bricks from Victoria would come to about what they cost in Seattle. Finding this out, the contractor promptly ordered the supply here.

Although this is the first order, the Victoria brick firms are hoping others will come in a very short time, because of the difficulty of obtaining them in Seattle.

Mr. Elford employs quite a number of Chinamen handling bricks, yet he is very much opposed to that class of labor. It was his intention to have given evidence before the royal commission, but circumstances prevented him. He says that he would not employ the Chinese unless he was forced to do so. Speaking of cheap labor, he said there was no such a thing. The Chinamen did not do nearly as much as a white man, or if he found himself able to do as much, he asked wages equal to the white men. He favors the total exclusion of the yellow men, and says that if this is done white laborers will soon immigrate and fill their places. As an example, he pointed out that in Seattle the brick yards were not suffering for want of Chinese laborers. On the other hand, they were making large profits and paying their men good wages.—Victoria Times, April 16.

A Wise Move.

The management of the dog show has decided to postpone the show until next fall, as so many of the best dogs have been sent out of town owing to the recent orders and the fear of rabies, and to the fact that most of the dogs are shedding, so that they could not present as good an appearance as when their coat is in good shape like it is in the fall, and owing to the request of so many dog owners, the management decided to postpone the show. The question of races for dogs will come before the sports committee tonight.

The money collected for the dog show will be placed in the hands of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Rapidly Drying Off.

Dame Nature appears to be lending a hand towards putting Dawson's stadia in condition for the celebration to be held on Victoria day and should the weather remain clear the mud will have nearly all dried up by that time. All pools on First avenue have been drained and the warm sunshine is rapidly driving the dampness from the ground. Several good horses will be entered for the races on that day and if properly jockeyed some lively traveling will be witnessed.

The steamer Bonanza King was again in port this afternoon.