

SIFTON MURDER TRIAL.

Walter Herbert's Sensational Story of the Crime.

Walter Herbert's confession of the part he took in the murder of Joseph Sifton on June 30, 1900, is one of the most cold-blooded in the annals of crime in Canada. When he was called as a witness at the trial in London last week he came into the court room neatly attired, and smilingly took the stand. He was living at Gerald Sifton's on June 30, 1900, he said, the day Joseph Sifton met his death. On the morning of that day he went to Joseph Sifton's place with Gerald, at the latter's request.

"What did you go there for?"

"As a witness. Gerald Sifton asked me to go there as a witness, if anything should occur connected with the doing away with his father. He told me he had laid out to go away with his father, and he told me he would give me \$1,000 to act as a witness, if anything should happen to his father, if the thing was done."

"If what thing was done?" asked Mr. Riddell.

"If he did away with his father. He wanted me as a witness for him if anyone should come along and say it was foul play. He said that morning he laid out to go away with his father, and he told me he would put up a track for a horse, and when his father would be working on it he would knock him out of the end of the barn where the hole was."

STORY OF THE CRIME.

Herbert then told how he had accompanied Gerald to Joseph Sifton's, after first ascertaining that the old man had not married Mary McFarlane.

"Gerald went into the house," continued Herbert, "and told me to drive to the barn, which I did. Gerald came out with an axe in his hand and a coil of rope over his shoulder. The rope was to fix the track for the hay-fork. He told me to bring up the wrenches and hammer to fix the track, and I brought them up into the loft. There was a ladder up to the loft, and a trap-door at the top. Gerald emptied the tools from the bag and took the hammer in his hand, throwing the rope into the mow. He handed me the axe. Now, he says, you stay right here, and when the governor comes up you hit him with it, and if you don't it will be all up with you."

"Then he went to the end of the barn and crawled along the beams and knocked off some boards, and the governor came up. I hit him on the side of the head with the axe on the right ear. Then I caught him by the collar of the coat. Then Gerald came over and said, 'You old fool, I'll learn you to try and fool me.'"

"He got the axe and hit him three or four blows on the top of the head. Joseph Sifton tumbled back and his feet and legs caught in the ladder, and his body hung there. Gerald told me to pull him out. I did so, and Gerald pulled him up and hit him three or four more blows. Then he said, 'Come on, I took him by the legs and he by the head and threw him into the mow. Gerald wiped the axe on a bunch of hay and hit him three or four times on the head. Then Gerald took him to the end and threw him out of the opening he had made.'"

HERBERT HIT FIRST.

"It was me, I was standing on the south side of the hole, and Joseph Sifton was standing on the ladder. When I hit him his head went to one side. Gerald Sifton came from the end of the barn and took the axe. There was blood all over Joseph Sifton's head. I helped lift him over the beams and throw him out. When he was on the ground, Gerald told me to put his feet out more to the west and I did so. Gerald called to me, 'Take the axe and hit him some more, because if he comes to there will be — to pay.' I hit him twice. Then Gerald told me to put the axe down beside the body, and I did so. Then I went to the barn door and saw Mary McFarlane. I told Gerald, and he told me to tell her that the governor had fished out the end of the barn, and she said, 'Oh, is it done?' And I said, 'Don't say that, Mary.' Gerald told me to go over to Mr. Sifton and tell him, and I told him and Mr. Decker that the governor had fallen out of the barn. I went to the man Richardson and told Mrs. Richardson and the hired girl the same story."

After telling of Gerald Sifton's movements after the crime, Herbert said: "The morning of the arrest, Gerald Sifton told me not to be afraid, that he had everything fixed. He had been down town to see the lawyers, and told me to keep up a good spirit. He did not know at that time that I had told the whole story."

"Herbert stood Mr. Johnston's cross-examination well, and retired from the witness stand with his story practically unshaken."

Mr. Johnston kept up the cross-examination. He has, from Dr. McNeill and others, got information to show that Joseph Sifton was a rather impetuous man. Dr. McNeill said that a few months prior to his death, he had treated him for an accident, the old man having fallen from a windmill. He was repeatedly having falls of this kind. But the greatest triumph of the defence was gained when Dr. McNeill distinctly stated that he was still of the same opinion regarding the death of Joseph Sifton as when he gave the burial certificate.

"What caused the change of opinion which you had in July and August?"

FEARS FOR WESTERN CROP.

Continued Rain Has Hurt That Still in Shock.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—In view of the wet weather, the enormous quantity of wheat still in shock, and the limited facilities for treating the same by drying, the elevator companies have decided to stop buying for a time, in the hope that the farmers will abstain from threshing till the grain has had an opportunity to dry in the shock, which it will do more quickly than in any other way, and will secure better prices to the producer and that a few months prior to his death, he had treated him for an accident, the old man having fallen from a windmill. He was repeatedly having falls of this kind. But the greatest triumph of the defence was gained when Dr. McNeill distinctly stated that he was still of the same opinion regarding the death of Joseph Sifton as when he gave the burial certificate.

"What caused the change of opinion which you had in July and August?"

"The will partly, and the way people talked, but, considering all these circumstances, I adhere to the opinion I held when I granted the certificate."

THE CHANGE OF FRONT.

By the doctor came as a surprise, and the impression on those present could not help but be noted.

Mary McFarlane, the servant girl on the Sifton farm, was asked if Joseph Sifton had not been warned of danger from his son. The defence objected, and the judge sustained the objection. She proceeded to give some important evidence regarding the will and what Sifton had repeatedly said about it. She said that her wife had urged her not to marry the old man Sifton. The complete evidence of Mary McFarlane, as given to Mr. Riddell, differed little from that given before. She told of her relations with Joseph Sifton and the appearance of the old man after the accident. She said that Gerald Sifton had offered her \$1,000 on her wedding day, and promised that she should live with him until that time. To Mr. Johnston, however, she explained, that this offer was made while Joseph Sifton was lying dead in the house, and she and all were crying. Under the circumstances, and because she was treated as one of the family and about to become a mother, she did not consider this very unreasonable.

GERALD UTTERED THREATS.

Mrs. Hulda McFarlane, mother of Mary McFarlane, said she had objected to the marriage on account of Joseph Sifton's age. She asked Gerald to call at Rev. Mr. Cooper's and see if they had been married, and Gerald said he would, and if his father had not been married he would put him so he would not be married that day.

On cross-examination Mrs. McFarlane admitted that her memory would not recall the exact words of the conversations that had taken place about the time of the tragedy. Mr. Johnston submitted the witness to a long cross-examination, but did not get any evidence of material value.

Rev. Mr. Cooper said he had an appointment to marry Joseph Sifton and Mary McFarlane at 5 o'clock on that afternoon of June 30, the day Joseph Sifton died. Mr. Cooper's evidence took up some time, but brought forth little that was new.

JAMES MORDEN'S EVIDENCE.

James Morden told how Gerald Sifton had asked him to help do with his father. First, Gerald proposed that they hit the old man with a club as they passed on the road. Then witness said Gerald proposed to jump into the house at night and choke his father and hang the body in the barn. Gerald said he was going over the next morning to put up a track for a hay fork, and he would find the body and say it was suicide. Witness refused, and although a thousand dollars was offered he still declined to have anything to do with the thing. He asked Gerald why, knowing he was a friend of Joseph Sifton, the project should be broached to him, and Gerald said it was for that reason, no one would suspect him. Then Gerald said he would see Martin Morden, a brother of witness, and asked for his address, which witness gave.

Mr. Johnston's cross-examination did not succeed in weakening the story told by Morden.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese, &c in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, Oct. 1.—Wheat—The feeling in local wheat circles is rather easier to-day. There were sales of old white at 67½ to 68c, low freight, and of new at 66c high, and at 66 to 66½ low freights. No. 1 spring is nominal at 68 to 69c east, to millers. No. 1 Manitoba hard sold at 50c, and No. 2 at 78c, grinding in transit; No. 1 Northern at 78c, g.i.t. From Toronto and west 2c lower.

Oats—The market is easier, with sales of No. 2 white at 34½ to 35c for export on low freights.

Peas—The market is steady, with sales of No. 2 at 71½, middle freight.

Barley—The market is firm. No. 1 quoted at 52c, No. 2 at 49 to 50c; No. 3 extra at 48c, and feed at 45c.

Corn—Market steady, with No. 2 Canadian yellow quoted at 54½ to 55c west.

Rye—The market is quiet, with sales at 49c, middle freight.

Flour—The market is quiet. Ninety per cent. patents held at \$2.65 west. In buyers' bags, with \$2.62 bid. Locally and for Lower Province trade choice straight rollers, \$4.10 to \$4.25. Hungarian patents \$4.25, including at Toronto, and strong bakers' \$3.75.

Onmeal—Unchanged. Car lots on track here, \$3.75 in bags, and \$3.85 in wood. Broken lots 30c per bbl extra.

Milled—Dran firm at \$13.50 to \$14 north and west, city millers sell at \$14.50. Shorts, \$16.50 here, and \$17 outside.

DAILY MARKETS.

Butter—Receipts continue good, with an over-supply of poor qualities. Prices generally steady. We quote:—Selected dairy, tubs, 16 to 17c; choice 1-lb rolls, 18c; second grades, in rolls, tubs, and pails, 13 to 14c; bakers' 12½ to 13c. Creamery solids unchanged at 20c, and points, 2½ to 2c.

Eggs—Market is firm. We quote:—Strictly new laid, 14½ to 15c; ordinary fresh candled, 12½ to 13c; seconds, 9 to 10c.

Cheese—The demand is better, and prices firm. We quote:—Finest, 10½ to 10½c; seconds, 9½ to 10c.

HOGS AND PROVISIONS.

Dressed hogs firm at \$9.50 to \$9.80. Hog products unchanged and firm. We quote:—Bacon, long, clear, sells at 12c in ton and case lots.

Pork—Mess, \$21 to \$21.50; do, short cut, \$22.

Smoked meats—Hams, 13½ to 14½c; breakfast bacon, 15 to 16c; rolls, 12½c; backs, 15c to 16c, and shoulders, 11½ to 12c.

Wheat—The market continues firm. We quote:—Tercios, 11½c; tubs, 11½c; pails, 12c.

THE STREET MARKET.

The receipts of grain to-day were smaller. Wheat about steady, with 600 bushels at 73c for old white and red, and at 70c and 72c for new. The farmer for spot wheat. Barley easier, 1,000 bushels selling at 48 to 55c. Oats also easier, 400 bushels selling at 38 to 39c for new. Rye sold at 54c for one load.

Hay unchanged, 25 loads selling at \$10 to \$12 a ton. Straw nominal at \$10 to \$10.50. Dressed hogs, \$9.50 to \$9.80.

Following is the range of quotations:

Wheat, old white	\$ 0.73½	\$ 0.00
Wheat, red	0.73	0.73½
Wheat, new, red and white	0.60	0.72
Wheat, spring, old	0.70	0.72
Wheat, goose	0.66	0.76½
Oats, new	0.38	0.39
Barley	0.48	0.55
Rye	0.54	0.60
Hay, per ton	10.00	12.00
Straw, per ton	10.00	10.50
Dressed Hogs	9.50	9.80
Butter, in lb. rolls	0.17	0.20
Butter, creamery	0.20	0.25
Chickens, per pair	0.40	0.60
Ducks, per pair	0.60	0.85
Turkeys, per lb.	0.11	0.14
Cheese, per lb.	0.07	0.08
Eggs, per doz.	0.15	0.17
Eggs, held, per doz.	0.12	0.14
Apples, barrel	1.50	2.50
Potatoes, bag	0.75	0.90
Tomatoes, bush	0.40	0.50
Tomatoes, basket	0.15	0.20
Cabbage, dozen	0.25	0.35
Caulliflower, doz.	0.40	1.25
Onion, dozen	0.40	0.50
Beef, quarters	4.50	6.00
Beef, hindquarters	7.50	9.00
Beef, medium, carcass	5.00	6.50
Beef, choice	7.00	7.25
Lamb	7.50	8.50
Mutton	6.00	7.00
Veal, choice	7.50	9.00

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, Oct. 1.—Flour—Good demand. Wheat—Spring, little doing; No. 1 Northern, 67½c; do, new, 78c; winter firm; No. 2 red, 75c; No. 1 white, 76c; Corn—Steady; No. 2 yellow, 62½c; No. 3 do., 62½c; No. 2 corn, 62c; No. 3 do., 61c; Oats—Firm; No. 2 white, 40½c; No. 3 do., 39½ to 40c, and No. 2 mixed, 38c; No. 3 do., 37c; Barley—61 to 63c for choice to fancy. Rye—No. 2 in store, 50c. Canal freights higher; wheat 3½c, corn 3½c, oats, 2c to New York.

Minneapolis, Oct. 1.—Wheat—Cash, 69½c; December, 67½ to 67½c; May, 67½c; on track, No. 1 hard, 71½c; No. 1 Northern, 68½c; No. 2 Northern, 66½c. Flour and bran unchanged.

Toledo, Oct. 1.—Wheat—Cash and September, 72½c; December, 73½c; May, 76c. Corn—Cash and September, 58c; December, 57c; Rye—54½c; Clover—Firm; cash, October, and December, \$5.22½; March, \$5.80. Oil—Unchanged.

Detroit, Oct. 1.—Wheat—Closed—No. 1 white, cash, 73c; No. 2 red, cash and September, 72c; October, 72½c; December, 73c.

St. Louis, Oct. 1.—Wheat—Close-

ROYALTY IN THE WEST.

Winnipeg's Enthusiastic Welcome to the Duke and Duchess.

A despatch from Winnipeg, Man., says:—The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and members of the royal party received a magnificent welcome at noon on Thursday. Twenty-five or thirty thousand citizens lined the gaily decorated streets from the depot to the City Hall, as the royal procession moved along. Arriving there Mayor Arbutnot read the civic address, couched in the usual terms expressive of loyalty, etc., and then the Duke replied, making special reference to the wonderful development of this portion of His Majesty's dominions, and also referring to the noble work done by western Canadians in standing soldiers to South Africa. He helped in fighting the empire's battles. The scene was one of great enthusiasm.

The address from the archbishops of St. Boniface and Rupert's Land were also read and the Duke presented medals and decorations to the Scotch and Canadian soldiers.

The procession was then formed and proceeded to Government House, where luncheon was served.

In the afternoon the new university building was visited after which the Duke dined at Government House. The party left for the west at 10.30 in the evening. Thursday morning opened beautifully, the sun shining brightly, and citizens were buoyant and unstinted in applauding the royal couple.

Six arches decorated the route of the royal procession, nearly all of them being covered with wheat, emblematic of the chief product of the country. Here, as elsewhere, arrangements were very complete for the reception of the royal personages. Special constables were sworn in, and national soldiers were sent in, and national soldiers were suspended and streets closed while the royal party moved along.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Montreal, Oct. 1.—The receipts of live stock at the East End Abattoir this morning were: 500 head of cattle, 50 calves, 200 sheep, 150 lambs. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the following prices were well maintained: Cattle—Choice sold at from 4½ to 4½c per lb.; lower grade from 3½ to 4½c per lb.; calves were sold from \$2 to \$10 each. Sheep brought from 3½ to 3½c per lb. Lambs were sold from 3½ to 4½c per lb. Hogs brought from 6 to 7c per lb.

ANTHRAX IN NORTH-WEST.

Only a Few Cases.—The Disease Now Under Control.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Hugh McKellar, clerk of the Department of Agriculture for Manitoba, says there have been only a few cases of anthrax in the province, and none of them fatal.

G. H. V. Bulver, Territorial Commissioner of Agriculture at Regina, writing to Winnipeg on Wednesday night, says:—About the end of July a large number of sheep of the Canadian Land and Ranch Company, Crane Lake, died. Poisonous weeds were at first suspected, and some time elapsed before the cause was discovered to be anthrax. The affected ranches were at once quarantined, and the sheep inoculated. No new cases have developed in the last three weeks. No disease is reported on any other ranges, and the ranchers, as a precaution, are inoculating freely. A few cattle have died in the quarantined districts, but the disease is not at all general, and the whole matter appears to be under complete control.

SMALLPOX REAPPEARS.

District North of Lake Huron Again Visited.

Smallpox, which it was thought was thoroughly under control, has made its appearance in Little Current, Howland Township, Manitowish Island. The first case developed about September 1, but was not diagnosed as smallpox at once, owing to its appearance in a very mild form. Some of those who took the disease first recovered, and were going about their usual occupations without any quarantine precautions being taken.

The Provincial Health Department has ordered that all cases and suspects be quarantined, that vaccination be generally enforced, and other precautions taken.

HIS NECK BROKEN.

President Lawrence Killed at Collingwood.

A despatch from Collingwood says:—Charles Lawrence, president of the Great Northern Exhibition, and also president of the West Simcoe Farmers' Association, met with a fatal accident while leaving the Exhibition grounds at 11.30 on Thursday evening. His horse took fright at a hand organ which was passing at the time, and threw him from his buggy against a tree, breaking his neck and fracturing his skull. Death was instantaneous. Mr. Lawrence was first president of the Great Northern Exhibition, and has retained that position for the last eighteen years.

SURRENDERS CONTINUE.

Mail Train to Bloemfontein Now Running at Night.

A despatch from Bloemfontein says:—Gen. Wilson has sent 50 prisoners belonging to Koenig's commando from Edenburg. They also brought in their saddles, rifles, and ammunition. Batches of prisoners from the Bloemfontein camp are being sent every week to Durban. Natal. Small surrenders continue daily. The mail train is now running at night for the first time in 14 months.

FARMS IN THE WEST.

Director of Experimental Stations Returns to Ottawa.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Dr. Saunders, of the experimental farms, has returned from his annual tour of inspection of the Western experimental farms. He left Ottawa on the 13th of August and during his tour westward he found harvesting progressing rapidly. Everywhere the fields of grain gave promise of an abundant crop, and the harvest weather was all that could be desired. Under such favorable circumstances the grain was saved in exceptionally good condition, and a very large proportion of it will be made high.

The crops through the Province of Manitoba on the main line of railway were seen; also those in the vicinity of Brandon. At the experimental farms there many of the varieties were already cut. Returns given since have received the approval of eight different sorts of wheat, which have varied from 32 bushels to 35 bushels, 20 lbs. per acre. Reports are also to hand of the threshing of two varieties of barley and four of oats. One of the varieties of barley gave 46 bushels per acre, the other 44 bushels. The highest yield among the four varieties of oats was 82 bushels, 32 lbs. per acre, the lowest 64 bushels, 20 lbs. These figures will, it is believed, about fairly represent the grain crops of the Brandon Experimental Farm.

Of other crops, peas have given a fair average, the average yield being 20 bushels, the lowest 14 bushels, and the highest 26 bushels. The yield of peas is particularly heavy, and Indian corn is an unusually heavy crop, potatoes are giving an abundant yield, and are of high quality, white field roots are very promising. Many farms in the neighborhood of Brandon were visited, and most of those which were planted in grain about equal to those in the experimental farm.

On the return journey it was found that a considerable amount of threshing had been done in this district. Those fields where the wheat had been grown on stubble had given about 22 bushels, whereas the grain which had been grown on fallowed land had yielded from 28 to 30 bushels and upwards. From the information gathered, it is believed that the Manitoba Government estimates of an average yield for the province of a little over 20 bushels per acre is likely to be fully realized. Such a return will place large sums of money in the hands of the farmer and give a great impetus to business.

The crops in Eastern Assiniboia are remarkably good, and heavier than those in Manitoba. This is particularly the case in the Indian and District. A day was spent in Regina and in visiting farms within 20 miles of that place. Everywhere the grain was most promising, although at that time the wheat was not so far advanced towards ripeness as the fields were about Indian Head.

CZOLGOSZ SENTENCED.

To Be Electrocuted Week Commencing October 25th.

A despatch from Buffalo, N.Y., says:—Leon F. Czolgosz, alias Fred Niemann, was on Tuesday found guilty of murder in the first degree by a jury, in having on the sixth day of September shot President William McKinley in the hands, resulting in such a fatal wound that he died on the death of the President. The verdict of justice moved swiftly. The trial of the assassin consumed eight hours and twenty-six minutes, and covered a period of only two days. Practically all of this time was occupied by the prosecution in presenting a case so clear and conclusive that even had the prisoner denied the plea of insanity, it is doubtful if the jury would have returned a verdict different from the one rendered to-day. The announcement made by the attorneys for Czolgosz that the eminent alienist summoned by the Erie County Bar, Dr. James M. C. Zolgosz, and to determine his exact mental condition, have declared him to be perfectly sane, destroyed the only pretext of a defence that Judge Lewis and Titus could have put together. Justice White sentenced Czolgosz to be electrocuted during the week commencing October 25th.

FINANCES OF DOMINION.

Revised Figures Showing Revenue and Expenditure.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Revised figures of Canada's financial position for the fiscal year ended June 30th shows that the total ordinary revenue amounted to \$52,551,722, while the expenditure under the same head was \$48,505,751. This makes the surplus about \$4,000,000 less than the Finance Minister figured it to be. The capital expenditure upon railway subsidies, the South African contingent, etc., amounted to \$11,083,958. Mr. Fielding's estimate was \$10,700,000, and deducting from this the surplus and sinking fund, he looked for an increase of about \$2,000,000. The increase, as it turns out, will be \$2,849,000. For the previous fiscal year the financial statement was as follows:—Ordinary revenue, \$51,029,999; expenditure, \$42,974,279; surplus, \$8,055,720; capital expenditure, \$9,742,187; decrease of debt, \$779,639. The revenue for the first two months of the present fiscal year was \$8,177,062, and for the year of July and August of the previous year. The expenditure was \$5,382,982, as against \$4,173,471 for the first two months of 1900.

PRINCE OF WALES.

On His Return the Duke Will Receive the Title.

A despatch from London says:—It has been ascertained that the excellent authority that all the details in connection with the creation of the Duke of Cornwall and York as Prince of Wales are completed, and that the dignity will be conferred immediately on his return. It has been anticipated that this would be the case, and the correspondence is now in a position to say it is an accomplished thing.

RUSSIAN WINTER CROP.

Excellent in the South-Western Provinces.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—A report issued by the Minister of Finance, M. Dewitz, shows that the winter grain in the south-western provinces is excellent, and that it is above the medium in Northern Caucasus and Finland. The winter crop is only mediocre in the south-eastern (Russia) and in the Volga provinces. The spring grain crop is everywhere worse than the winter crop on account of the

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ROYALTY IN ONTARIO.

Details of Tour of Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Additional details of the movements of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York in Ontario, on their return from the west, have been given at Government House as follows:—Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York arrived at Toronto about 2 p.m. on October 12th, and leave about 9 a.m. on October 12th to visit cities in Western Ontario, arriving at Niagara-on-the-Lake (same date). Their Royal Highnesses will leave Niagara-on-the-Lake about 11 a.m. on October 13th, to visit cities in Western Ontario, reaching Kingston about 11 a.m. on the 15th, and leaving that place about 2 p.m. same date.

The route, as communicated by District Passenger Agent Dickson, of the G.T.R., is as follows:—The train is taken in charge by the Grand Trunk at North Bay at 6.05 a.m. on October 13th, and will arrive in Toronto at 2 p.m. The Duke and Duchess will be met by the train at 11 a.m. on the 15th, and leaving that place about 2 p.m. same date.

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STATION AT BELLE ISLE.

Successful Laying of New Cable Reported.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The department of Public Works has notified of the successful laying of the cable to Belle Isle Light. The Belle Isle station is supplied with international code of signals, and is to be included in the list of wireless stations in the river and Gulf of St. Lawrence, from which reports will be posted in Quebec and Montreal, and from which weather and reports will also be forwarded as a posted. The Society of Loyalists will also establish it as one of their meeting stations.

As a result of the visit to Cape Race light station of Mr. Anderson, Chief Engineer of the Marine Department, and in accordance with his recommendation, the fog whistle will be changed on November 1st to five audible blasts of five seconds at intervals of one minute, thus, blast five seconds, silent five seconds, blast five seconds, silent five seconds.