

THE HILLSBORO ARGUS.

VOL. 2.

HILLSBORO, OREGON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1895.

NO. 32.

PLOT TO FREE DURRANT

The Alleged Conspiracy Has Been Exposed.

GIBSON WAS TO BE IMPLICATED

The Information Gained From a Letter Sent to the Coroner by One of the Conspirators.

San Francisco, Oct. 30.—A strange story of an alleged plot in connection with the trial of Theodore Durrant came to light today through a letter addressed to the coroner. The police claim they have known of the plot for some time, and that the knowledge of that plot had been discovered, and led Attorney Deuprey for the defense, to abandon the case and take to his bed, leaving the closing management of the case to General Dickinson, who, it is alleged, did not know of the plot. Six men are, according to the story, implicated as those who were to swear to false statements prepared for them, it is alleged, by the defense. The police say the plan was conceived entirely by Durrant and carried out largely under his direction by the aid of one of his counsel. The plan was to make such evidence as would prove an alibi for Durrant and at the same time implicate Rev. J. George Gibson in the murder of both Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams. One of these alleged witnesses, who, by his letter to the coroner, confesses his part in the plot, said he and others were ready to manufacture an alibi, but when they were asked to implicate Gibson they weakened and gave a hint to the police which spoiled the whole plan.

A letter dated October 27, and signed George Reynolds, is as follows: "Tonight I will seek rest from all worldly cares in these waters near the Cliff house. I write this so you need have no inquiet or identification. I was some months ago to be a witness in the Durrant trial for the murder of Minnie Williams. I send you a statement prepared for me to learn with my five other men named Smythe, Dugan, Stewart, Taylor and Harrington. I object to take part in this matter because of the part of the plan to implicate Fletcher Gibson. I assisted E. M. Thayer, Durrant's friend, in fixing up the plan. Smythe, Dugan and Stewart were to be witnesses in the Lamont case, and Taylor, Harrington and I were to help him out in the Williams case. I tried to get statements of the other five to enclose with this, but they would not give them up. Smythe was to say Blanche Lamont was at his house, near Hayward, until Friday, April 5, when she left for home. The strap with Blanche Lamont's name I marked myself with her name. I cut off the end of the strap and sent it to Chief Crowley three months ago with other matter. Dickinson's explanation about the strap is clever, but very improbable. I am not surprised Deuprey is sick. I should think Dickinson would be sick, too. Dugan and Stewart were to say they had been to Dr. Anthony's funeral in Oakland on Friday, April 5, and when returning saw Miss Lamont on the ferry-boat, Dugan knowing her well. The plan was also to produce a bloody handkerchief with the initials 'G.' meaning Gibson, upon it. I lettered five other handkerchiefs, and Thayer sent them by messenger to Gibson with a card written by Smythe, saying, 'From four little infant-class girls.' The bloody handkerchief was to be offered as having been found in the lot back of the church on Sunday, April 14, but it never was delivered because we declined to take part in the plot to implicate Gibson. This is all I have got to say. Let Durrant tell the rest."

HEAVY DAMAGES.

They Are Given a Negro Because of Cruel Treatment.

Seattle, Oct. 30.—Judge Hanford, of the United States court, today awarded \$4,500 damages to Louis Boldin, a negro sailor on the Chilean ship Atacama, in a suit against J. M. McLean, the owners' agent, and J. Jensen, the captain, for cruel treatment which deprived him of the use of his hands. Boldin engaged in a struggle with the second mate on the voyage from Valparaiso and was overpowered by Jensen and McLean, and tried up. His condition proves that he had been subjected to torture by having both wrists so tightly bound by handcuffs or cords as to arrest circulation for such a length of time as to produce what the doctors term strangulation; the skin and flesh of both palms were blistered, causing decay, and the skin of his knuckles was, by a severe bruise or chafing, destroyed; just above each wrist joint there are deep scars completely encircling the wrists; the cords are so effected that his fingers remained bent, and the testimony shows that some of them at least can never be straightened.

THE MINES AT MULLAN.

Serious Trouble Is Expected, and the Militia Ordered in Readiness.

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PUYALLUP RESERVATION.

Lands Will Be Sold, and the Indians Will Receive Their Money.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The Indian office feels very much encouraged at the way work is progressing at the Puyallup reservation, near Tacoma, and it is hoped that the commission now endeavoring to settle the difficulties which have always existed there will succeed. Reports of operations of the commission are received from time to time by the commissioner of Indian affairs, and the indications are that in time the lands may be sold and the Indians receive their money. The commission has just sent the secretary of the interior approve it, and give authority to have it filed as the Indian addition to Tacoma.

This reservation of unallotted lands, which were held in common by the Indians, consisted of 598 acres. It has been partitioned into lots, there being some reservations for school purposes and cemetery and railroad grounds. Taking out what has been so reserved and also the reservations for streets and alleys, there are in lots 338 acres, making 3,600 lots. The appraised value of the lots is \$212,000, but as they are sold by public sale the receipts may be larger than that sum. Already sales of lots aggregating \$32,210 have been made. The sales are for one-third cash, and the balance in five years, if the purchaser does not elect to pay sooner. The money is deposited in the treasury of the United States for the benefit of the Indians.

Besides the lands held in common there are 167 tracts of allotted lands. The commission is endeavoring to obtain the consent of the Indians to have these allotted tracts sold, and in sixty cases the allottees, or heirs of allottees, have given their consent to the sale, reserving only a small portion for the use of themselves. These tracts are sold in tracts of 80, 40, 20, 10, and 5 acres, if so desired by the purchaser. The officials of the Indian office say that every effort will be made to fully protect the Indians, and also to dispose of the lands so that Tacoma may have the use and benefit of them for extensions which are needed.

MAY MEET ON TIME

The Prizefight May Yet Occur Near Hot Springs.

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HOLMES TO BE TRIED.

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What He Thinks of the Various Pacific Railroad Plans.

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The prevailing opinion in Hot Springs sporting circles is that the fight will certainly occur at some point in or near Garland county. Such an air of mystery surrounds the proceedings that it is hard to obtain reliable information, but that preparations are being made in a quiet way for a fight no one doubts. Many Hot Springs people believe the fight will occur at Whittington Park, the site originally selected, and that the battle will occur as originally agreed upon. They argue the decision of the supreme court affirming the prizefight law leaves the matter exactly where it stood before Corbett was arrested, and that it was virtually a victory for the fighters. The fact that the Hot Springs Athletic Club has engaged a circus tent seems to indicate, however, that some private spot has been selected.

A close friend of Governor Clarke, has been shown letters from Hot Springs which tend to confirm the belief that a fight will occur. One of these letters is said to have come from Attorney Martin, and stated that preparations were being made for a private fight. Governor Clarke, in speaking of this information, is said to have remarked that he did not care how much they fought, so long as it was conducted in private, and without being advertised.

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