

WITNESSES ADMIT THEIR PERJURY

Confess Swearing to False Affidavits.

GESNER TO BUY THE CLAIMS

Claimants to Timber Land Were to Make \$75 Profit.

TESTIMONY IS SHORTENED

Judge Bennett Is Pugnacious on Cross-Examination and Endeavors to Tangle Government Witnesses.

The first day's work in the Williamson trial has shown two things; one, that the time consumed will in all probability not be so long as in the first hearing; the other, that the testimony of the first trial as a whole will be of great value to the Government, and thus weaken the force of their testimony before the present jury.

Judge Bennett's pugnacious cross-examination of the three witnesses Campbell Duncan, Ben F. Jones and Frank Ray, was the feature of the opening of the trial the Government first called Duncan, who told the same story related at the first trial of having taken up a claim at the suggestion of Gesner and with the understanding that he should get \$75 for it when patented.

On the other hand, the witnesses seemed more ready and fluent and a trifle more willing than at the first trial. Duncan told his story in a clearer manner and more directly and without so many prompting questions or lapses of memory as had been the case previously.

Judge Bennett tried to weaken the testimony of Duncan in regard to the story told by him of having met Williamson and Gesner in the office of the latter, when the witness said that he had seen the Oregonian of November 24, 1902, in which it was stated that Secretary Hitchcock would investigate timber land frauds in Oregon.

An amusing passage took place during the afternoon session between Ben F. Jones and Judge Bennett while the witness was being cross-examined. The attorney had been questioning Jones about his former testimony and could get no very satisfactory answers out of him.

"I remember that I was here and that you accused me of being a sheep-shooter," answered the witness.

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also said the claims were near the old shearing plant, and that Gesner would give \$500 each to those who would file on the claims as selected by him.

Duncan had taken the advice of Biggs and had gone to the shearing plant, meeting Gesner on the road and being taken to the timber land as it would be some of that to be filed upon.

"Hitchcock was Mad." Duncan testified that he and his wife had signed a note for \$19.50, the amount of the filing fee, in the office of publication. Two or three days before the date set for the final proof, the witness stated that Gesner had come to the office and was working in a livery stable, and had asked to speak to him.

Judge Bennett brought out the new point by his questions that the witness Gesner a timber locator, who selected claims on behalf of Gesner, and who was to receive \$500 for each claim.

Judge Bennett questioned the witness about having been threatened with imprisonment by Mr. Burns and about the fact that Gesner had threatened him by the use of a gun.

Ben F. Jones, the second witness, was called just before the noon adjournment. He stated that he had followed Gesner and had seen him running horses in 1902 and that Gesner had suggested to him that he file upon a timber claim.

On cross-examination Jones denied that he had ever given a note for the amount lent him or that he ever had followed Gesner or Biggs relating to giving a mortgage on the claim.

At 1 o'clock Judge De Haven adjourned court until this morning at 10.

MAZAMAS ESCAPE HORRIBLE DEATH

Great Boulder Crashes Beside the Cowlitz Glacier.

SWIFT SCRAMBLE FOR LIFE

General Stevens Stumbles and Falls in Mountain Stream, While Carrying His Sister, Miss Bingham, of Portland.

PARADISE VALLEY, Sunday, via Longmire Springs, July 24.—(Special.)—The very fact that so large a gathering of people could do such perilous climbing and have no accidents to record speaks volumes for the efficient management of the four great mountain-climbing parties now encamped in Paradise Valley.

The narrowest escape thus far occurred when a party of eight, led by Professor Landes, of the University of Washington, was saved from death by rolling boulders. The party had tramped some ten miles over fields of snow and ice, finally to reach a huge rocky cliff, which shut them out from Cowlitz glacier.

Beauty of the Deathtraps. Little by little, holding to the short, tough heather, the party made the descent. Then came the tramp over the ice field, around death traps of such wonderful beauty in formation and coloring as to lure and fascinate, while they froze the very blood with their horrible possibilities.

There seemed absolutely no escape, and for a moment every man must have stopped beating—they could only hope the heather tightly, powerless to move.

WAR DEPARTMENT MOURNS. WASHINGTON, July 24.—The War Department took cognizance of the death of ex-Secretary Lamont today by sending a message of sympathy to the Secretary of War Oliver.

CHATAQUA PAYS EXPENSES. OREGON CITY, Or., July 24.—(Special.)—Secretary Harvey E. Cross states that while the expenses of the summer session of the Willamette Valley Chatauqua Association was not up to expectations, the management will be able to meet expenses of a summer assembly next year.

TRIAL OF TEST CASE BEGINS. ST. LOUIS, July 24.—The cases of Max Gumpertz and George Ehrlich, charged with violation of the law prohibiting pool-playing and betting on horse races, were called for trial in the St. Louis County Circuit Court at Clayton today.

ANACONDA COMPANY LOWERS STOCK. BUTTE, Mont., July 24.—The Anaconda Company filed notice today to the effect that it had lowered its capital stock from \$50,000 to \$20,000. The move is made preparatory to the closing up of the affairs of the company.

BARON KOMURA TAKES PRIDE IN TRIP FROM THE ORIENT. SEATTLE, July 24.—(Special.)—To Francis B. Clark, who accompanied the party as far Elbert as Malta, Mont., Baron J. Komura and W. Denzawa, the two Japanese of their reasons for hastening to Seattle to New York.

EMPERORS TALK FAR INTO NIGHT

All Europe Wondering What Is Subject and Effect of Conference.

MAY MEAN NEW ALLIANCE

Czar and Kaiser Separate and Other Nations Suspect New Combination—Russians Fear Cession of Provinces.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 24.—The Marshal of the Court, Count Benckendorf, has sent the following from the Island of Bjorkoe:

At 10 o'clock in the evening of July 23 the German imperial yacht Hohenzollern dropped anchor near the anchorage of the Russian imperial yacht Polar Star.

May Form New Alliance. An afternoon paper quotes a significant editorial in the semi-official Berlin Post hinting that France has grown cold toward Russia.

Funeral at Altamont. CLEVELAND ASKED TO PAY LAST RESPECTS TO LAMONT.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., July 24.—The funeral of ex-Secretary of War Daniel B. Lamont, who died suddenly last night at the age of 61, will be held at 12:30 P. M. at Altamont.

German King for Norway. In another quarter it was suggested that the German Emperor may have asked Emperor Nicholas to support a German Prince for the throne of Norway.

Advise Peace and Reform About With Czar. BERLIN, July 24.—The Foreign Office here is anxious that a meeting between Emperor William and Emperor Nicholas take place early today off the Swedish coast, near the Island of Bjorkoe.

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WILL SEARCH OUT FACTS

Bonaparte Orders Strict Inquiry Into Bennington Disaster.

ALL EXPEDIENTS FAIL

Kansas Postmistress Vainly Pleads for Relief From Noise Made by Asinine Neighbors, Who Lift Voices at Night.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Secretary Bonaparte, in a statement issued today, said the public may rest assured that the Bennington disaster will be thoroughly investigated and that whatever action the results of the investigation may show to be proper will be taken by the department, promptly and effectively.

TOPEKA, Kan., July 24.—(Special.)—"No power on earth can prevent a jackass from braying. This court is powerless to afford relief in this case and the injunction is dissolved," said Judge Dana in dismissing a suit brought by the postmistress of Richland, Kan., against the owners of a number of jackasses to prevent their braying.

ONLY ONE MAN IS MISSING. All Others of Bennington's Crew Accounted For.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., July 24.—Shocking and pathetic as have been the occurrences accompanying and following the explosion of the United States gunboat Bennington in San Diego harbor, the story of the frightful accident has reached the point where the strain of suspense may give way to the relief of knowing that the extent of the disaster has been defined.

BEYOND HUMAN POWER. Judge Dana pondered at some length over the case and finally announced that he would dissolve the injunction.

HAILED AS JAPAN'S FRIEND. Warm Welcome Awaits Taft as America's Representative.

BOILERS KNOWN TO BE WEAK. SAN FRANCISCO, July 24.—Commander Lucien Young's last log letter to Commander-in-Chief Goodrich, of the Pacific, has been picked up on the deck of the gunboat Bennington.

RANSOM CALLED AS WITNESS. WASHINGTON, July 24.—Commander George R. Ransom, Chief Engineer Officer at the Mare Island Navy Yard, where the last repairs to the Bennington were made, was today ordered to proceed to San Diego. It is expected he will be able to give Admiral Goodrich valuable information regarding the condition of the vessel's boilers at that time.

DROWNS IN HIS FATHER'S SIGHT. LEWISTOWN, Mont., July 24.—While swimming with several friends in the Missouri River at Rocky Point, Albert Meyer, aged 23 years, was drowned in the presence of his father, William Meyer, who was at the time in the boat.

REPORTED TAKEN OFF AT QUARANTINE ON MOBILE BAY. MOBILE, Ala., July 24.—There is a rumor current that two of the crew of the Columbia, from Colon via Ponce de Leon, which unloaded fruit last night, were taken off the vessel when she arrived at the quarantine station, 20 miles bound at Mobile Bay.

JACKASS' BRAY SUPPRESSED BY LAW

Court Says No Power on Earth Can Still His Unmelodious Voice.

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