



MITCHELL IS SHOT DOWN BY SISTER

Slayer of Holy Roller Creffield Murdered in Seattle.

ESTHER GREETS WITH SMILE

Loiters Behind at Depot for Opportunity to Assassinate Avenger of Her Honor.

PISTOL HIDDEN BY HER CAPE

Another Brother Reaches for Weapon Just Too Late.

BULLET ENTERS HIS HEAD

Family Party Was at Union Station to See George and His Brother Off for Portland on the Afternoon Train.

and she bought the gun with which it was done. It had been agreed between them that the first one seeing George should slay him.

George and Perry Mitchell were to have gone to Portland last night. In fact, George had made all arrangements to meet certain newspapermen upon his arrival. At the last moment, however, L. T. Sandel, who testified at George's trial, asked George and Perry to spend the night at his guests at Southeast Seattle, where a small group of Holy Rollers, including Frank Hurt and wife, reside. They did so.

Today Fred Mitchell saw his sister and he told her that the departure of his brothers had been delayed. He told her they would leave Seattle at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon. She took the gun Mrs. Creffield had purchased and went to the depot to meet them.

Esther Takes Brother's Hand.

Perry Mitchell saw his sister standing near a pillar when he caught his glimpse. She had been seated near the center of the room watching for the three boys and had arisen when he passed. Perry greeted her and a moment later signalled to George, whom Esther had not seen. He approached and without words the brother and sister shook hands.

Esther offered to accompany the brother



George Mitchell, the Murdered Man.

ers to their waiting train and the four started down the aisle toward the door. George and Perry Mitchell were in front with Fred and Esther walking a short distance behind. Fred was at the side of Esther, but about two feet distant. She was carrying a cape thrown over her left arm, and beneath it was concealed the revolver.

Fred offered to carry the cape as the group passed down the aisle and reached for it. As he took it from Esther's arm she whipped the revolver into her right hand, raised the gun and fired. George dropped, killed instantly.

Murderess Collapses After Crime.

Esther fell back as Fred Mitchell reached for her revolver and sat down into his lap with her arms about his neck. Fred had wrested the gun from her, but too late to prevent the killing.

By a curious coincidence Officer Hurt, the man who arrested Mitchell when he killed Creffield, was the depot policeman who took Esther into custody for slaying her brother. Hurt turned her over to Officer Mason. To Mason the girl said, answering a question:

"I am George Mitchell's sister and I shot him."

"Why did you do it?" asked Mason.

"I will make my statement later on," said the girl calmly. She did not show any emotion.

Miss Mitchell was hurried to the police station, while the body of George Mitchell lay on the depot floor awaiting the coroner. About the time Esther had reached the station George's body was carried from the station toward the morgue. Hunt-

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ESTHER URGED ON BY MRS. CREFFIELD

Praise of Avenger Put Murder in Heart.

PLOT FORMED AFTER TRIAL

Widow Discusses Plans With Mitchell's Sister.

BUYS HER A REVOLVER

Girl Was Selected to Do the Killing, as Mrs. Creffield Believed She Was Suspected and Would Be Watched.

ESTHER MITCHELL'S STATEMENT.

"I do not regret it. I am glad I did it. I fired once and tried to fire another, but there was such a loud noise made by the crowd I don't know whether I fired again or not."

"I shot him in the head, and I knew if I hit where I intended to it was sure death."

"I intended to follow him to Portland if I did not shoot him here."

"I killed George because he killed an innocent man, and because he had ruined my reputation by saying that Creffield seduced me."

Later, as she was being taken away in a carriage to the County Jail, Miss Mitchell declared to Chief Wappenstein:

"I killed George because he killed an innocent man and because he has ruined my reputation by saying that Creffield seduced me."

Esther was taken to the County Jail in a private carriage, and she asked that the blinds be drawn to shield her from the curious crowd. Police Matron Mrs. Kelly supported her as she emerged from the Chief's office, where she stayed with Miss Mitchell.

Half an hour later Mrs. Creffield telephoned from a grocery store at 434 North Broadway to Police Captain Sullivan, saying she would remain there until an officer called. She announced she presumed she was wanted.

Heard of Murder on Street.

When Detective Brown found Mrs. Creffield at the grocery store, she declared she had seen two "plain-clothes men" approaching the house as she left, and though they might want her, she insisted she had been to the cemetery to visit "Joshua." Creffield's grave, and on her way back heard the

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George then and I didn't want to, because I couldn't get the gun unwrapped. I had the gun wrapped up and concealed and I refused to see George. "When I went home I took the gun and placed it under the mattress. Then I took it out about noon today and kept it with me. My brother Fred was up to my room today and said that Perry and George were going to Portland today at 4 o'clock. I went to the depot and saw Perry get his ticket and I followed him."

"At last I saw George and I shook hands with him and I was walking to the door with him. He and Perry were walking in front and Fred and I were walking behind. At that time I had the gun in my coat. I removed it from my bosom where I had it concealed. Fred offered to carry my coat and I told him all right. Then I was walking to the door. George was in front of me."

Just the Chance She Wanted.

"It was just the chance I wanted and I then shot him. My brother Fred grabbed me and I sat down on his lap and put my arms around his neck. I sat there and the officer came."

"I do not regret doing it. I am glad I did it. I fired once and tried to fire another, but there was such a loud noise made by the crowd I don't know whether I fired again or not. I shot him in the head, and I knew if I hit where I intended to it was sure death."

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Acting under instructions from Deputy County Attorney John F. Miller, who had prosecuted her brother, Dr. J. B. Loughery made an examination of the girl to test her sanity. His report was that she was sane except on the question of the Holy Rollers' creed.

When Mr. Miller entered the Chief's office to see Esther he asked her if she knew him, and she promptly replied: "Yes, Mr. Miller, I know you."

Reasons for the Killing.

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SHE EXERCISES WOMAN'S RIGHTS

Mrs. Hartje Denies Writing Letters.

FORGERY USED AGAINST HER

Expert Finds Several Handwritings in Them.

PASSION FOR TOM MADINE

Millionaire Disconcerted by Wife's Change of Testimony—Forged and Mutilated Papers Used to Secure Divorce.

PITTSBURGH, July 12.—Mary Scott Hartje, who is contesting a suit for divorce brought by her husband, Augustus Hartje, the millionaire paper manufacturer, was the starting witness when the case was taken up today, after a week's adjournment to allow counsel for both sides to examine with experts handwriting in the letters that Mrs. Hartje is alleged to have written, and which figure prominently in the case.

Mrs. Hartje threw the counsel for her husband into a somewhat disconcerted attitude when she flatly contradicted her testimony of last week and denied that she ever wrote the Wagner letter, known as exhibit No. 6. This letter is one of the "standards" in the case, and formed a large part of the premise from which the handwriting experts for her husband argued that she wrote the famous 40 letters to "Tom" Madine, the coachman co-respondent in the case.

Expert Discovers Forgery.

The sensation thus produced was further heightened when David N. Carvalho, the handwriting expert, was called for Mrs. Hartje and declared on the stand that the torn and mutilated exhibit No. 25, on which the case is, in part, based, was a "forged and mutilated document." He said he had noted three distinct handwritings in the exhibits.

Mrs. Hartje's lawyers asked for an adjournment that they might determine their course. An adjournment was refused, but a recess was taken. When the case was resumed at 2 o'clock, Mr. Carvalho went on the stand and reiterated his testimony. Dr. Marshall D. Ewell, the Chicago handwriting expert, corroborated him. Both said the letters they had examined were in the same handwriting as the Wagner letter.

Court adjourned for the day with Mr. Ewell on the stand. Both Mr. Carvalho and Dr. Ewell will be called to the stand again tomorrow and each of the 40 letters will be taken up separately.

What Mrs. Hartje Did Not Write.

Mrs. Hartje was shown exhibit No. 6, a letter addressed to Susie Wagner, a former domestic. When on the stand previously, Mrs. Hartje said she had written the letter. Today she denies its authorship. After an examination of the letter during the week's recess she said

she had come to the conclusion that the handwriting was not hers. "I wrote Susie Wagner a letter," the witness continued, "in which there were many of the same expressions, but the sentence to the effect that I wanted Susie on my side was never written by me."

Mrs. Hartje was then closely questioned as to what she did during the recess, particularly as to the examination of the "standard" letters. During the course of the examination, the witness was extremely nervous.

Written by Different Persons.

Mr. Carvalho said he had examined the letters, and found that some were written by one hand and some by others. "I don't think," said the witness, "that exhibit No. 6, the Wagner letter, was written by the same hand." Concerning exhibit No. 34, an envelope, the witness said, "the handwriting on that envelope is not the handwriting of the other letters, but a fair resemblance."

On exhibit No. 35 he found that some of the pieces had been misplaced and that the pencil was applied to it. He believed it to have been written by the same person who wrote the Wagner letter, and that the letters 15 and 20 were also in the same handwriting. Exhibit No. 35 was the letter which Edward G. Hartje found in the ashbin in the barn at Augustus Hartje's residence.

Letters Burn With Love.

The letters, on the authorship of which the decision of the court rests, were filed with the most loving sentiments, breathing passionate regard in every sentence, assuring the coachman of the writer's undying love, that she had left her husband for him and would never love anyone else. She accused him of growing cold toward her, but said her heart was on fire with love for him and always would be so.

Interspersed with all these loving messages was much practical advice, such as admonishing him to be careful about brushing the horse dust out of his hair, not to neglect his bath, to put talcum powder on his feet and be sure and change his socks daily.

The libellant rested his case on the reading of the letters and the defense is now on.

Letter No. 1 purports to have been written in London, when the Hartjes were about to return from their European trip. It advises Madine to lie low and not let Hartje see him going aboard the boat. After getting safely aboard his directions for the evening are as follows:

"I will wait until I know he is in bed. Then you sit around the door. Just before he sits down, place, and when you see me follow right after me, but not too close. If there is no one in the hall, just turn right in my door."

There has been much testimony during the trial to show that the Hartjes occupied separate rooms on the Baltic returning from Europe. Another letter speaks of sending Madine some money (this is on board the boat), and says: "Be very careful of this, for dear knows what may happen before you are safe in my arms again. Go to bed early and take good care of yourself. I got down on my knees and prayed that we might be aboard this boat tonight."

Gives Practical Advice.

In a third letter is this practical advice: "Do be careful what you eat and don't eat too fast. Keep your body clean and take all the rest you can get. Some day we will have things different. What I have you shall share. I will keep you well and take care of you as I do the children."

In many of the letters there are sentences to show that John Scott, father of Mrs. Hartje, his wife and her sisters all knew of her love for Madine and aided and abetted it, but that the father's advice was that she be careful until the divorce suit was ended and she obtained a settlement from Hartje which would enable her to go away and live with Madine in comfort

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DREYFUS' HONOR CLEARED OF STAIN

French Court Finds Him Innocent.

NO BASIS FOR CONVICTION

Declares Esterhazy Wrote the Dammng Letter.

NEW TRIAL UNNECESSARY

After 12 Years' Torture and Persecution, Dreyfus Is Vindicated and Will Return to the Army as Brigadier-General.

TRAGEDY OF DREYFUS.

September, 1894.—The bordereau discovered in waste paper basket at German Embassy by French spy.

October 15, 1894.—Captain Dreyfus formally accused of writing treasonable bordereau by Major Paty Du Clam.

December 19, 1894.—Captain Dreyfus tried by secret courtmartial and condemned.

January 5, 1895.—Public military degradation on square of military school, Paris, in presence of 8000 troops and crowds of civilian spectators.

March 15, 1895.—Dreyfus lands on Devil's Island.

November 14, 1897.—Major Esterhazy formally denounced by Dreyfus family to the Ministry of War.

January 8, 1898.—Esterhazy acquitted by a courtmartial.

January 13, 1898.—Emile Zola made public accusation of illegal courtmartial proceedings in both Dreyfus and Esterhazy trials.

January 20, 1898.—Zola prosecuted by Minister of War and found guilty.

August 30, 1898.—Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Henry confessed to forging letters which helped condemn Dreyfus, then committed suicide.

September 19, 1898.—Cabinet determined on revision of the Dreyfus case.

June 3, 1899.—Court of Cassation annuls sentence and orders new courtmartial.

July 1, 1899.—Dreyfus lands in France from Devil's Island.

August 7, 1899.—Second courtmartial on Dreyfus begins at Rennes.

September 8, 1899.—Dreyfus found guilty again with extenuating circumstances and sentenced to ten years in prison.

September 20, 1899.—Pardon granted, Dreyfus still protesting his innocence.

July 12, 1906.—Court of Cassation annuls sentence and declares him innocent.

PARIS, July 12.—Alfred Dreyfus was today completely acquitted of the charges on which he was condemned as a traitor, dismissed from the army and imprisoned on Devil's Island, and regarding which France has been torn for years by the most bitter political and racial agitation. His vindication was twofold, the Supreme Court first announcing its decision and then the Rennes courtmartial to present an urgent bill in Parliament restoring Dreyfus to the army, with advanced rank and otherwise giving the government's most ample reparation.

The decision of the court was a foregone conclusion, as exhaustive inquiries had completely demolished the fabric of the accusation against Dreyfus, showing that the real culprit was Major Count Esterhazy. The decision therefore annulled the condemnation of the Rennes courtmartial and ordered that the acquittal be posted and published throughout France.

Tonight the Ministers held a prolonged special session at the palace under President Fallieres and determined on the government's course in carrying out the decision. The text of two bills were formulated, which will be introduced in the Chamber of Deputies tomorrow, concerning respectively Dreyfus and Colonel Picquart, with the object of restoring both to the ranks they would have held if they had continuously served in the army. Dreyfus consequently will be nominated a Major, with eventual early promotion to a Lieutenant-Colonelship. Picquart will immediately become a Brigadier-General.

Dreyfus' name also will be inscribed on the list for the Legion of Honor, but he will not be directly nominated to the distinction, though probably a decree placing him on the list will shortly appear.

Deputy Breton has given notice of a bill providing for the transference of Emile Zola's remains to the Pantheon with a public ceremony.

COURT ANNOUNCES DECISION

All Accusations Unfounded and No Cause for New Trial.

PARIS, July 12.—The Supreme Court today announced its decision annulling the condemnation of Dreyfus without a new trial. The effect of the decision is a complete vindication of Dreyfus, entitling him to restoration to his rank in the army as though he had never been accused.

The decision was read by Presiding Judge M. Baillet-Latour, president of the Court of Cassation, immediately on the reassembling of the court at noon. The

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ESTHER MITCHELL, HOLY ROLLER, WHO KILLED HER BROTHER



—Drawn From a Photograph by Harry Murphy.

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HELD AS ACCESSORY IN MURDER OF GEORGE MITCHELL



MRS. MAUDE HURT CREFFIELD.