

FAMILY TROUBLES LEAD TO MURDER

R. T. Dickerson Shoots Harry A. Garrett, Alleging Intimacy With Wife.

PROTESTS HER INNOCENCE

Woman Says Dead Man Was Helping Her in Divorce Suit—Slayer Claims Justification in Act by Unwritten Law.

Charged with the commission of a cold-blooded murder, closely guarded in a cell in the County Jail, believing his act will be excused by a jury of his countrymen through invocation of the unwritten law, R. Thomas Dickerson, a street contractor, 313 Patton road, Portland Heights, his voice shaking with vindictive rage, openly told the story while in the custody of officers of a tragedy yesterday morning shortly after 4 o'clock, which ended in the death of Harry A. Garrett, one of his teamsters, and disclosed to the world the shocking scandal of an alleged faithless wife and the punished wrongs of a home destroyer.

The tragedy occurred in front of the barn of Dickerson's bunkhouse, at 423 Patton road, a block below his home. Dickerson had just arisen and was supping feeding the horses. Garrett also had just arisen and walked out in front of the stable. A short conversation ensued between the two and Dickerson drew his revolver and fired five shots into the body of Garrett, killing him instantly.

Was there merit in Dickerson's belief that an uncompromising intimacy existed between his wife and Garrett, was it a blind and insane jealousy, goaded on by a desire to retain his wife's love, which magnified the relations between her and Garrett to a point where he was justified in slaying her? This is a question which the officials are trying to solve.

Woman Denies Wrongdoing.

In an interview yesterday afternoon Mrs. Dickerson stoutly denied any relations of a shocking character between her and Garrett, explaining their frequent conferences by saying Garrett was to be her star witness in the divorce proceedings that she had instituted against her husband, who she was assisting in securing other witnesses. "He killed an innocent man. That man dead would be a great help to me in my case," she said, "but he was not my husband. He was my enemy."

The killing was only witnessed by two persons and their stories of the tragedy are widely different. One of these is G. C. Mower, a stable hand, who came four days ago from Grants Pass, and the other is Mrs. Henry Snyder, who has been acting as the Dickerson housekeeper for some time.

Stable Hand Tells Story.

The stable hand, a boy about 30 years old, was standing with the feet of Dickerson when the shooting occurred. "I was taking hay from a wagon and giving it to the horses," he said, "and I am positive that a conversation took place. The first I knew was when the first shot was fired. I could not see Garrett until he had been shot. I thought Mr. Dickerson was shooting for fun and that Garrett was just carrying on the joke by falling. Neither man uttered a word. Mr. Dickerson walked away and during the entire affair not a single word was said that I heard."

Another Witness Differs.

"When 'Bud' (meaning Garrett) came around the corner Mr. Dickerson said: 'Did you have a good time at St. Helens yesterday?' 'Bud' did not answer, but threw back his head and laughed in a sneering manner. He continued advancing toward me, and I continued laughing in a sneering, gloating way. That would have caused me to do just as he did, when Mr. Dickerson drew his revolver and commenced firing. I don't know how many shots he fired. I saw Garrett fall and Mr. Dickerson walked away."

After the shooting Dickerson walked up to his house and left the revolver. He then returned to the bunkhouse and was driven down by his foreman, Harry A. Fuller, who took him to the Sheriff's office, where he gave himself up to the custody of the officers. He was placed in the library of the jail, where he told his story of the murder. On the way down town the two passed the police patrol wagon and an ambulance from the morgue of Dunning, McIntee & Gilbaugh, in which was seated Deputy Coroner James Duntz. Dickerson spoke to Duntz as he passed, saying: "You don't need an ambulance. What you need is the morgue wagon. The man is dead."

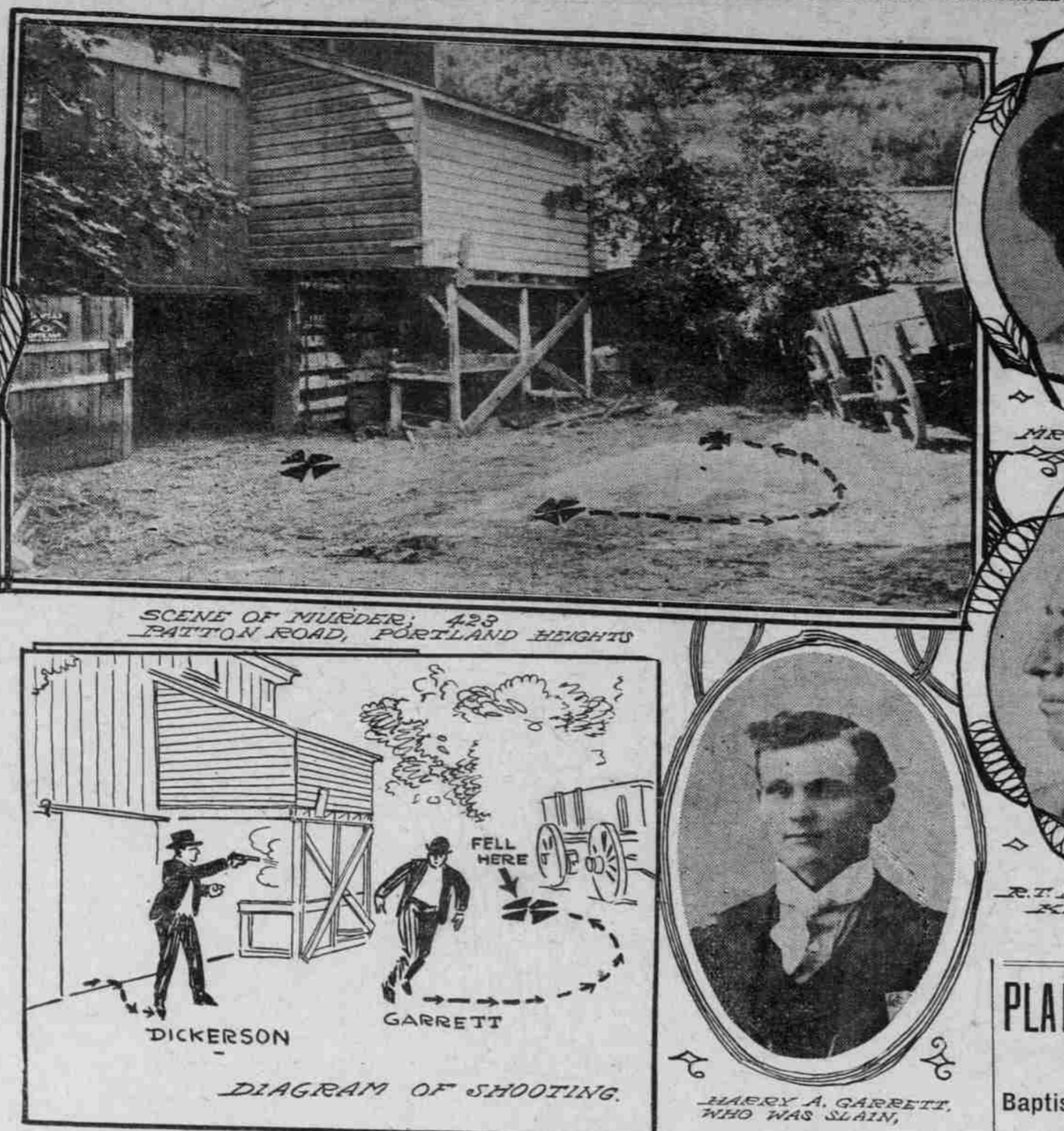
Dickerson Asserts Justification.

Dickerson asserts he was entirely justified in killing Garrett, because, he says, Garrett had been unkindly intimate with his wife and had threatened to kill him as soon as their divorce case is concluded and then run away with his wife. "I have heard of his breaking up other homes," said Dickerson. "He boasted of this, and some of my wife's folks said, 'I heard that she told that she was going to leave with one of my men as soon as the divorce hearing was over. I knew they met at St. Helens yesterday. I don't care to discuss it further, since the man is dead. It will all come out at the trial,'" concluded the prisoner.

Trial Set for Wednesday.

Dickerson was arraigned before Justice of the Peace Bell yesterday afternoon and his examining trial set for Wednesday at 2 o'clock. The coroner's inquest over Garrett's body will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Dickerson has not definitely arranged on counsel as yet, though he discussed the matter with several attorneys yesterday. Attorney John H. Stevenson, of the firm of Logan & Stevenson, appeared for him at the arraignment yesterday afternoon before Justice Bell. The defense of the prisoner will undoubtedly be the unwritten law, made famous by the Harry Thaw and Hans trials in New York. A plea of insanity will be urged, as is customary. This subterfuge will be used to avoid technical interference on the part of the court in

SCENE OF YESTERDAY'S TRAGEDY, WITH PORTRAITS OF PERSONS CONCERNED.



SCENE OF MURDER, 423 PATTON ROAD, PORTLAND HEIGHTS

MRS. R.T. DICKERSON

R.T. DICKERSON WHO KILLED GARRETT.

HARRY A. GARRETT WHO WAS SLAIN.

DIAGRAM OF SHOOTING.

Instructing the jury that a verdict of guilty be returned.

Mrs. Dickerson visited the morgue yesterday afternoon to inquire what disposition is to be made of Garrett's body. She showed the greatest solicitude concerning the welfare of the dead man and asked that she be advised by telephone of what his people wish done with him. She steadfastly refused to answer questions of a delicate character, save to deny that there has been undue intimacy between herself and Garrett.

Woman Shows Refinement.

"He is an innocent man," she said. "Our only relations were his interest in my suit for divorce." She then terminated the possibility of further questioning by taking her little girl by the hand and walking hastily out of the door. Mrs. Dickerson was accompanied by her little daughter, Pearl, aged 7 years; her sister, Mrs. Hall, with whom she is staying on Eleventh street, and Mrs. Hall's mother-in-law, Mrs. Dickerson is an attractive blonde woman, apparently about 30 years of age, she was neatly gowned and has an appearance of refinement. There is a trace of sadness in her face. Her sister is even prettier than she, but of the opposite type. Both evidenced great humiliation over the affair, but other than this there was no apparent emotion on their part.

Twice Married to Dickerson.

Mrs. Dickerson, whose maiden name was Martha Messner, was first married to Dickerson March 1, 1894, at McMinnville. In July of 1907 she was granted a decree of divorce on the ground of cruelty and abusive language toward her. In this petition she recites that Dickerson threatened to kill her, all of her male relatives and then commit suicide. She was given the custody of their little girl, then 5 years old. The remarriage took place in February by Justice of the Peace Bell, of this city, who will likewise sit in the examining trial Wednesday afternoon, and before whom Dickerson was arraigned yesterday. A contract was drawn up before the marriage, the principal stipulation being that in the event of another separation the custody of the child should go to the husband. Early in May of this year the second separation occurred and on May 25 Mrs. Dickerson again sued for a divorce. She first went to the home of her parents, who, since their removal from 754 Thurman street, have been living at Sylvan, Or., a suburb west of Portland.

Letters Reveal Intimacy.

That there was merit in Dickerson's contention of intimacy between his wife and Garrett there is no question, whether or not this intimacy reached a stage of wrongdoing prior to their separation, as suggested by Dickerson, admits of argument. Letters found in Garrett's trunk by the Deputy Coroner, James Dunning, establish this beyond a doubt. These missives, which are replete with suggestive statements, none of which are positive, are indicative of the native intellectuality of their authors. In these letters, as if advancing an excuse for their lack of warmth, Mrs. Dickerson states her lawyers have advised her to be careful in writing and not give her husband a clue to what she is planning. Just what this "planning" is she leaves equally indefinite.

Letters Make Appointments.

In all Garrett had in his possession eight letters, written during the period from her last separation with Dickerson to last Saturday night, when she sent him two letters. One of these was written at the Perkins Hotel in Portland and asks him to come up to her room No. 511. In the letter she makes the appointment for the parlor and in none of the letters does there any positive suggestion or any allusion to past misconduct. In most of the letters, however, she closes with endearing terms, such as "with love and kisses."

One of the letters, which illustrates the general spirit of all, written from her parents' home at Sylvan, follows:

"Friend I don't dare write very much for the lawyers told me to be very careful. I told her I hadn't seen or heard from anybody up there since I left. I will be at the postoffice about half past seven or eight o'clock Saturday night and will be there all night. I was there last Saturday night, but didn't see anything. I don't know just when the trial will

The Merry Widow At the Bungalow All Week



This fascinating music, which has taken America and Europe by storm, is available to all who own a Talking Machine.

We have records for all the different makes—Victor, Edison and Columbia—and also Music Rolls for the Pianola Piano.

The only place in Portland where all the makes of Talking Machines and Records are shown side by side—giving opportunity for careful comparison.

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desire to attend the convention, can leave their children.

In place of one banquet for the alumni of all the seminaries represented, there will be a separate banquet for each seminary. Rev. R. Schwedler will be in charge of the banquet committee—Rev. J. C. W. Parker. Credentials committee—C. A. Wooddy, D. D. Rose committee—W. E. Keeler. Information committee—P. B. Casan.

Tacoma Shipping News. TACOMA, June 21.—The German steamer Sals, which arrived in Port last evening, is loading flour at the Oriental dock for the West Coast.

The German steamer Ella, which arrived in port yesterday afternoon from Quartermaster Harbor, is loading for West Coast ports of Mexico and Central America.

The steamer Watson arrived tonight from down Sound to complete cargo. The steamer schooner Winnebago arrived in port today and is loading for San Francisco.

Suits for Corvallis Nine.

CORVALLIS, Or., June 21.—(Special.)—On Saturday the Corvallis Cubs received new suits, a present from local business men and celebrated the event by winning from the Slets Indians, at Toledo on Sunday, score 10 to 7. This team has won a majority of the games played this year and now wants games with some of the crack northern teams.

Lundgren May Come Home.

TORONTO, Ont., June 21.—The Toronto baseball club has announced the release of Pitcher Carl Lundgren, formerly of the Chicago Cubs, to the Kansas City Whittman, James Palling.

FOR SALE, TILLAMOOK, NEAR EAST 36TH, SEVEN FINE DWELLINGS.



Bungalows, and two-story, five to eight rooms; new and modern; fireplaces, dens, seats, bookcases, buffets, beamed ceilings, paneled dining-rooms, sleeping porches, large verandas. Terms like rent.

JOHN LOCKHART, OWNER, 610 Chamber of Commerce.

Necarney City, Seabright and Nehalem Bay Park NOTICE

Because of the extensive OIL SIGNS on above properties, we have WITHDRAWN FROM SALE all unbroken blocks and all lots where ten or more lay together, and on and after July the First will advance the price of lots left on sale \$25.00 per lot. Terms, 20 per cent down and ten dollars per month.

Advised by an expert, who has fully proven to us that he knows whereof he speaks, and who refused wages to expert these grounds, but instead takes an interest in what may be found, we took the above serious step. Serious to us because we were selling this property very rapidly, and to withdraw from the market just now, and during the best selling season for all beach property, we certainly pondered long, and were exceedingly hard to convince that the expert discovery warranted us in so doing. We are fully convinced that we cannot afford to do otherwise than to fully test the facts we are in possession of, and have formed a strong company and will put down a well at once, and should our expert opinion be borne out by successful demonstration, those that have already invested with us will have reason frequently to congratulate themselves.

NEHALEM BAY LAND CO. 274 Oak St., Board of Trade Bldg., Portland, Or.

BOLD, BAD PIRATES UNFURL BLACK FLAG ON WILLAMETTE

Tale of Captain Mullin and His Crew of One, Wherein Adventurous Search for Treasure Trove Is Recounted.

The little black flag flew merrily. And the man by the long bow-gun tightened his lips and stared at the sea.

"This is a story of pirates, strange and adventurous and buried treasure, linked with the expedition and youthful seamen, and should properly commence with the traditional 'once upon a time,' but since it occurred only Sunday that would probably be inappropriate. Be that as it may, never was an expedition started with more fixed determination on the part of its personnel, and when it comes to daring Don Quixote was a timid imbecile in comparison.

Roy Mullin, 14-year-old son of Harry Mullin, who lives in the Union building on Elst street, between Oak and Stark, was the leader of the expedition and his little brother, scarcely past ten, was guide, but these two explorers scorned help and set out bright and early yesterday morning from the dock at the foot of Washington street in a soap box. In large letters along the side of this strange craft was printed the word 'Scrubollo,' and the way she sat in the water would have delighted the eye of a veteran seaman. Captain Kidd, Bagdad the Sailor, and all other fictional heroes of the deep blue combined, would have made a first-class cabin boy for Cap'n Mullin and his crew, who sat in the bow of the vessel and steered her out on the river, his little red sweater forming the only bit of color on the broad expanse of the Willamette.

Cap'n Mullin had a fierce look on his face now for was not he a full-fledged pirate? From a stick at one end of the Scrubollo a black flag, or, properly speaking, a dirty black rag, flew merrily. Such terms as 'cutlasses,' 'walkin' the plank' and other piratical parlance were the snatches of conversation which reached the ears of Policeman Douglas Leisley, who chanced along soon after the freebooters weighed anchor.

"Ship ahoy!" bellowed the copper. "What craft is that?"

The Scrubollo of Portland, bound for Treasure Island, Cap'n Mullin, came back from the youthful adventures of a great time.

"You kids come back here before you are drowned!" yelled the officer, scarcely able to repress the fear in his voice as the two lads would be struggling in the water any moment.

Whether afraid to disobey the officer, or from fear that their boat, which was leaking badly, would sink, the red crew of the improvised vessel about and reached the dock in safety.

The officer took the boys to police headquarters and, after hearing their story, Captain Bailey ordered them sent to their mother.

"We stole the box from some boys who owned it up the river," said the younger lad, "and we were going to hunt treasures. I wish that old policeman had left us alone. Gee, we'd sure had a great time."

When a reporter sent up his card to the Mullin apartments with a request that he be granted an audience with Captain Mullin, he found the pirate out in search of other adventures. He rec'd said that his brother was the name of Valentine, was in and came down a great time.

"Air ye goin' to write us up?" he queried. "I'm not goin' to tell you anything. Where were we startin'? Oh, that's a mystery. Gimme a nickel and I'll tell ye." When the money was forthcoming the youngest pirate on record said that his brother was the originator of the idea. He had been reading about "pirates and things," and he had started out by stealing the soap box. They were going to look for treasures "and have some fun."

The police have had considerable trouble with young boys along the waterfront of late. Several of them have formed an organization, inspired by reading lurid literature, which they call the "Dirty Dozen." Both of the Mullin boys, however, deny membership in this society.

Northwestern People in New York.

NEW YORK, June 21.—(Special.)—Northwest people at hotels: From Portland—J. R. Smith, F. S. Penick, at the Astor; from Seattle—C. G. Riedel, at the New Amsterdam; A. H. Ludwig, at the Navarre; C. B. Cooper, at the Churchhill; J. I. Haglune, at the Herald Square.