

# MARINE DIVER NORTON MEETS SHOCKING DEATH

## Suffocated in Twenty-two Feet of Water Yesterday While Trying to Recover Lost Anchor.

### Accident to Pumping Apparatus Cuts Off Air Supply of Hapless Man and He Perishes Before Men on Deck of Tug Can Haul Him From the Water--Inquest to Be Held to Fix the Responsibility.

A terrible accident, resulting in the death of Arthur Norton, a marine diver, occurred in the lower harbor yesterday afternoon. While engaged in diving for a lost anchor, Norton's air supply was shut off, and before the unfortunate man could be hauled to the deck of the tug from which he had made the descent he was suffocated.

The body was brought to the city at once and taken to the morgue. Coroner Pohl said last evening that an inquest would be held at 9:30 this morning, at which time a jury will make an effort to fix the responsibility for the death of the diver.

Norton had been employed on the steamer Melville for several months and was not generally known as a diver—in fact, C. H. Callender, superintendent of the company operating the Melville, was surprised when Norton asked permission to perform the work which resulted in his death. It appears, however, the man had had some experience in diving, and that his services were occasionally sought for work of this character.

Recently the bar dredge Chinook lost a large anchor in the lower harbor, during the heavy gales which prevailed a week or more ago. The government tug Mendell had been detailed to recover the anchor, and it was decided to engage Norton to make the descent. Yesterday the man went down to the lower harbor with the tug, and shortly after the dinner hour the work was commenced.

According to statements made by persons present at the time, the diving apparatus was tested, as is usually done before a descent is undertaken. Apparently the pumps worked perfectly and there was nothing to indicate that accident might occur. When the metal hood was placed over Norton's head and the pumps started he breathed with apparent ease, and after remaining on deck a few moments signaled to be lowered into the river. The water at the place where the accident occurred is 22 feet deep.

About the time Norton should have reached the bottom of the river the

men on deck gave the usual signal to determine whether or not the diver was in trouble, another custom followed by men engaged in the work. No reply to the first signal, which was conveyed by means of a line, was received, and a second signal was given. Again there was no response and the men were instructed to draw the man up with all haste. This was done and in a few moments the diver was on the deck of the tug, the work of removing the metal hood requiring but a very short time.

To the horror of the men on the Mendell, it was found Norton had been without air, and that he was breathing his last when the hood was taken from his head. He gasped for breath a few times, and then succumbed.

The failure of the air supply had caused the swelling of the head and consequent bursting of the blood vessels, and when the hood was removed the unfortunate man was unconscious.

The accident was a great surprise to the men aboard the tug, who state that Norton had been down but a few moments, and who believed he could not possibly have suffocated in the short time elapsing after he disappeared beneath the water. It is quite evident that the air supply failed as soon as he went over the side of the tug, and that by the time he reached the river bottom he was helpless, as he failed to reply to the signals from above.

The body was brought to the city and taken to the morgue. Coroner Pohl said last evening that he would empanel a jury and hold an inquest at 9 o'clock this morning.

"So far as I could ascertain today, the accident was due to the failure of the air supply," said the coroner last evening. "I presume the cause of the death of the man will be brought out at tomorrow's inquest, and that the jury will fix responsibility for the accident."

Norton's features were so terribly distorted that the coroner, who had not known the man, was unable to even estimate his age.

Little is known of the hapless diver. He had been in Astoria for two years, during which time he was in the employ of the Callender Transportation Company. He was a man of exemplary habits and was very popular with his employers. It was said last evening Norton was a brother-in-law of Captain Bendegaard, the well known master of the steamer Signal, having married a Miss Bendegaard. His wife is dead, but it is understood two children, a boy and a girl, reside at San Francisco. The coroner has yet received no instructions from California as to what disposal to make of the remains.

C. H. Callender said last night that he was very much shocked to learn of the death of Norton, who had worked for him two years and whose conduct had endeared him to all the employees of the company. So far as Mr. Callender knew, Mr. Norton never talked much of his domestic affairs. Mr. Callender was not aware that Norton was a diver until Tuesday, when he learned that the man had been engaged to go down after the anchor lost from the Chinook.

#### HEINZE UNDER ARREST.

Mine Operators in Butte Violate Court's Order.

Butte, Mont., March 9.—On the charge that they were within the limits of the Rarus mine, three miners from the Pennsylvania mine were arrested this afternoon. The men in custody say that Rarus miners decoyed them into the Rarus on the plea that some of the Rarus miners were being suffocated and help was needed. Rarus miners claim that the Pennsylvania men invaded their workings to steal ore. The Amalgamated claims the ground where the trouble occurred and was awarded it by the court. The Pennsylvania belongs to the Boston & Montana Company, or in other words to the Amalgamated Copper Company.

#### MEN ARE POWERLESS

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You cannot accomplish a satisfactory cure without having a right understanding of the fundamental causes of the trouble.

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while the Rarus is Heinze's property.

Later in the day F. A. Heinze, J. H. Terrie and Al Frank were arrested by United States Marshal Lloyd for alleged violation of the federal court's order granting the Butte & Boston Company permission to inspect the Michael Davitt mine through the underground workings of the Rarus. Upon complaint being made to Marshal Lloyd that Messrs. Terrie and Frank refused to permit the inspection party to penetrate the secret passage way in the Davitt, steps were at once taken to enforce the contempt order. Marshal Lloyd placed both Terrie and Frank under arrest, and about 4 o'clock Heinze was also arrested.

#### SAVES ESKIMO'S LIFE.

Miner Travels Six Hundred Miles With Injured Native.

Tacoma, Wash., March 9.—To save the life of a wounded and suffering Eskimo P. C. O'Donnell traveled 600 miles over the frozen tundra and streams of the Bering sea region in December. He suffered from exposure for 21 days, was compelled to sleep in the open most of the time, waded for miles through icy water of mountain streams and all this time cared for Isaac Wood, a native, who had met with an accident while hunting, which severely wounded him in both hands. Wood accidentally discharged his rifle and a heavy 44-caliber bullet passed through the center of his right hand and tore away the thumb of the left hand. The accident occurred far above Cape York, 600 miles from Nome, and adequate medical attendance was procurable only at Nome. O'Donnell quickly perceived that heroic action was necessary if the Eskimo's life was to be saved. Loading provisions on a sled he started with him, but they were soon compelled to abandon the sled and carry the food on their backs. They reached Nome December 22. Wood was truly grateful, declaring O'Donnell had saved his life.

#### To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

#### WOMAN GRABS THIEF.

Villian Gets Away With Jewelry and Coin in Spite of Owner.

Sacramento, March 8.—A fashionable apartment house opposite Capitol park was the scene at noon today of an exciting conflict between a plucky woman and a burglar. Mrs. R. E. Cranston, whose husband is a well known mining expert, had left the apartments, locking the doors after her. When she returned she found one of the doors open. As she was about to enter the burglar, who had secured entrance by means of a skeleton key, brushed past her, with his pockets full of her jewelry and other valuables.

Mrs. Cranston seized him about the waist and fought bravely to hold him. The burglar was able to break away from Mrs. Cranston and he ran down the front stairs. A street car was passing and he boarded it.

Mrs. Cranston, in close pursuit, cried out to the conductor to catch the thief. The conductor walked forward to obey when the thief jumped off the car and ran through an alley and finally retracing his steps escaped through Capitol park. He secured about \$400 worth of jewelry and \$40 in coin.

#### ROBBERS RETURN PROPERTY.

Owner of Mint Saloon Gets Stolen Watch by Mail.

Baker City, Ore., March 9.—When the Mint saloon was held up by the lone highwayman about three weeks ago a watch which a miner from the hills had left with the proprietor for safe keeping was taken.

It was not very valuable, but the owner made a complaint about it and demanded the return of his property. Mr. Buckley could not comply with the request because the robber had it, and he was not to be found. It was hardly to be expected that Buckley would pay for the watch because it was not his fault that it was stolen.

Today Mr. Buckley received by registered mail from Silver City, Idaho a watch answering the description of the one stolen. The owner has not seen the watch, so it is not certain that it is the right one.

If it should prove to be the missing watch, there will be a grave question of doubt raised in the case of the state vs. Strong, who is now on trial for holding up the saloon.

Three men were arrested on suspicion before Strong was taken into custody. They were released for want of sufficient evidence to convict, and were given 12 hours to leave town. They all went east. Some of the officers thought they were the right men and the return of the missing watch lends color to that suspicion.

## A Suit of Clothes FREE

We will present a first-class suit of clothes, absolutely free, to any boy living in Astoria who will write the best advertisement to be placed on the new time clock lately erected on the outside of our store. We want something that will represent our business in a few words, and it must be short and to the point.

### This Is a Chance

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Below will be found the conditions necessary to compete

#### CONDITIONS.

Any boy residing in Astoria between the age of 7 and 15 years is eligible to compete. Fifteen words or less are to be used and all answers must be mailed or handed in to the store of S. Danziger & Co. on or before Monday evening, March 14, 1904. The boy submitting the best advertisement for the purpose proposed will receive absolutely free a good suit of clothes. Competent judges will be selected to make the award.

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