

ANOTHER TRAGEDY ON THE COLUMBIA

Louis Spina Accidentally Shot by His Boat-puller, Antonio Toncha.

CAUSED BY TOO MUCH LIQUOR

Before Dying Spina Exonerated Toncha in an Ante-mortem Statement—Boat-puller Surrendered to Sheriff.

Another tragedy occurred on the Columbia river at 3 o'clock Monday night. Phlemerman Louis Spina, one of Elmore's oldest men, while drifting in the lower river, with his boatman Antonio Toncha, was shot with a Winchester and mortally wounded. He died at the hospital at 3:30 last night.

It seems that Spina was somewhat intoxicated, and as he lay in his boat, a workman suddenly had some words with his boat-puller, picked up a long knife, and started for him. The boat-puller grasped a rifle, but before he leveled it the gun was discharged, the ball striking Spina near the stomach and tearing an ugly hole through the abdomen. The boat-puller made his captain as comfortable as possible, and worked hard all night rowing to the city. Upon arrival here he had Spina conveyed to the hospital and gave himself up to the sheriff. The two men were the best of friends, and have worked together for many years. Spina's remains now lie at the morgue. The following ante-mortem statement, made by Spina, best tells the story:

The interrogations were put by Mr. Cleston. Now, you may just state your name? Louis Spina. Just tell us, Mr. Spina, if you know whether or not you are dangerously hurt? Yes, I know it. Do you think you will ever get well? No, I don't. Just tell us how this happened? It is all my own fault. Tell us how it happened. I was a little drunk, and the boat-puller let me sleep nearly to the bell-buoy, and when I was to the bell-buoy I lay out, and I slept for three or four hours, and I told him I am the boss; and there was another boat, he started to call me "dago," and I went after him with a knife, and I says: "You do what I tell you," and this man tried to stop me— "This man?" (indicating.) Yes, sir. What is his name? Antonio Toncha. And he no intend to shoot me. He shoot me right here (indicating region of stomach), and he threw away rifle and I throw away knife; and then he picked me up.

Did he take the rifle out of your hand? What did he shoot you with? He never shoot me; he shoot me by accident; he never intend to shoot me. Was it a gun or a rifle? It was a Winchester. How did he happen to take up the gun? I had the gun up a few minutes before to shoot a sea lion, and I took the gun to keep him off.

Did he point the gun at you? No; as he raised up the shot go and it just caught me right here (indicating); he never intend to shoot me at all. Where did that happen? Where was your net then? It was out—Peacock Spit. When was it? Last night of this morning? Last night. What time? Half-past 8 or 9. When did he bring you up here? He pulled all night to bring me home. He do the best he could, the poor man. It was my own fault.

Was he mad at you when you were shot at all? No; he cried. When you had the knife in your hand, how far were you from him? I was aft. Where was he? About here (indicating a little forward of middle of the fish boat). He say "you stop." I still got the rifle; he say "you stop with that knife"; and he raised the rifle up and the shot went, and as soon as the shot went he threw the rifle away. You took up the knife and jumped at him? Yes. And he picked up the rifle and told you to stop? Yes; he never pointed it at me at all. You are in your right mind now. Yes. And know everything now? Yes; I am in my right mind; I know every bit.

BRYAN'S PLANS. Lincoln, Neb., June 29.—W. J. Bryan left this morning for Hastings in company with several state officers to participate in ex-Congressman McKelvey's memorial services. From that point Mr. Bryan will go to Salt Lake and through California. He will be in the latter state for four days, beginning next Saturday, and will speak at the celebration in Los Angeles next Monday. He will also visit

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MARINE NEWS.

Table with columns: DATE, HIGH WATER, LOW WATER, A. M., P. M., H. M. F., H. M. E.

VESSELS ON THE WAY TO THE COLUMBIA RIVER FROM

Table with columns: Vessel, Tons, Date, Destination (BALTIMORE, ASTORIA, SEASIDE, NEWCASTLE, A., SHANGHAI, VLADEVIC, SAN PEDRO).

The steamer Edith has resumed her regular run. Word has been received that the pilot schooner Jessie left San Francisco Sunday for Astoria. A two-masted schooner sailed into the river yesterday afternoon and came to anchor off Port Stevens.

The British ship Duchsalmir has completed her full list of sailors, and will put to sea today or tomorrow. The San Francisco steamer State of California arrived in yesterday morning with a large freight and passenger list.

The pilot schooner San Jose arrived in yesterday and reported nothing in sight but the two-masted schooner at the mouth of the river.

The British bark Glenlee, Captain Charles Morrison, made her entries at the custom house yesterday. She sailed from Liverpool January 21, and besides the 25,800 boxes of tin for Astoria, she brought a large amount of iron and general merchandise for Portland.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER. Maximum temperature 62 deg. Minimum temperature, 51 deg. Precipitation, .34 inch. Precipitation from September 1, 1896, to date, 32.22 inches. Excess of precipitation from September 1, 1896, to date, 17.93 inches.

TODAY'S WEATHER. Threatening, with probable light showers.

RECORD BREAKER. Springfield, Ill., June 29.—Arthur Gardner, of Chicago, in today's races of the National Circuit, broke the world's one-mile handicap record. There were eighteen starters in the race, Gardner, Mertens and W. Coburn being the scratch men. Gardner won the race, time being 2:05 1/2. The world's previous record was 2:05 1/2, made by Mertens this year.

SHOT HER HUSBAND. Victor, Cal., June 29.—Mrs. Mahoney shot and mortally wounded her husband, a blacksmith, in the Monument mine, yesterday afternoon. The woman was arrested.

NOTICE TO MARINERS. Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington. Notice is hereby given that the Point Wilson buoy No. 6, a red first-class nun, has gone adrift from its position off the four gound off Point Wilson.

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Plans and specifications may be seen at its Astoria office. Bonds will be required of the successful bidder. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. NORTHWEST CONSTRUCTION CO. With lines at ten cents a yard a very aesthetically in the realm of postholes for a very low price.

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