

ANOTHER TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

John Perry Tries to Murder Mamie Frates, and Then Suicides.

He Became Enraged Because She Refused to Become His Wife - A Ghastly Sighting.

Unrequited love! It has been the cause of thousands upon thousands of dead deeds, and another was added to the list in this city yesterday afternoon.

John Enos Perry, a good-looking young Portuguese, loved his pretty cousin, Mamie Frates. But Mamie did not return his affections. The girl's mother advocated young Perry's cause, while the father opposed the match and bade his daughter be firm.

This love dated back for over a year.

HOPELESSLY HE LEFT. Perry was persistent in his suit for his cousin's hand, and she was equally persistent in her determination not to wed him.

Finally Perry began to lose hope, and decided to leave Sacramento and his employment of teaching. He went to Westport, Mendocino County, and secured employment in a sawmill there. He was accompanied by Manuel Frates, Mamie's 15-year-old brother, who also obtained employment in the mill. This was several months ago.

On Sunday evening Perry and young Manuel returned to this city and repaired to the Frates residence, on T street, between Second and Third.

Perry was given accommodations at the house, and to all appearances had recovered from his longing for Mamie's hand. He greeted her courteously, but took pains to address himself more to the other members of the household.

But it was but the cunning of a madman. In reality the young man's passion was burning within him more fiercely than ever, and when a favorable opportunity arrived he beset the girl again with his tales of love and affection.

Members of the family happened to be out of the room, and for fear of exciting their suspicious Perry spoke to the girl in a whisper.

PERRY'S TRAIT. "Have you made up your mind yet to take me?" he asked, and his countenance assumed a beseeching look.

"I have not," she replied. "Very well, then," he hissed. "I have stood this too long. You shall never be another's. To-morrow will tell the tale."

Mamie covered under the terrible gesticulations of her would-be spouse, and stopping her ears with her hands, ran from the room. She related the incident to her mother, who latter said she was all right, and meant well. Mamie herself was not particularly alarmed at his threats, because he had often given vent to them before.

The girl kept out of the young man's sight during the rest of the evening. Yesterday morning Perry arose from his bed early, and dressed himself. No one knew at the time where he had gone to, but it is believed that he slipped out into the barn back of the house, and secreted himself there in the hay.

His purpose being to catch the girl there when she came out to milk the cow, and murder her. He was seen in the vicinity of the barn by a neighbor, and prior to that Mr. Frates, the girl's father, saw him there, and spoke to him asking him what he was doing so mysteriously. Perry made no reply, and pretended to go away, toward town.

Whether or not Perry remained near the house after that is not known. He left, but the circumstances surrounding the affair indicate that he did not go away. If he did, he returned in a short time and secreted himself in the barn again.

It was about 1 o'clock in the afternoon when the tragedy occurred. At that time there was no one in the house but Perry and her infant brother. The father was at work in the railroad shops, and young Manuel and his mother were visiting in the neighborhood.

Perry had been waiting for just such an opportunity, and emerged from his place of concealment. He went into the barn, and found the object of his love engaged in household work on the second floor of the cottage in a rear bedroom.

He renewed his avowals of love. She rejected his offers again. Then he drew a revolver and commenced his bloody work. According to the girl's statement, he fired at her immediately, but the bullet missed its mark.

Mamie screamed and tried to escape from the room. Just as she reached the rear door, however, the infuriated man seized her by the hair, twisted her around until she stood facing him, and then he deliberately placed the muzzle of the right side of her head and fired again.

TERRIBLE STRUGGLE. This time the murderous bullet was more effective. Blood spouted from the wound and splattered the walls and floor. The poor girl fell to the floor, and a great pool of blood marks the spot where she lay. The girl's mother, who was in the room, and again tried to escape from her brutal lover. But he was determined to finish his terrible work. Just as she reached the door leading to the rear porch, Perry fired again, this time lodging a bullet in the girl's head, near the right ear.

Mamie ran down the rear stairs into the back yard and then into the lower portion of the house, where she fell exhausted from loss of blood. She followed her as far as the down-stairs door, and believing that she was dead when she fell, hurried up-stairs again and began shooting at himself. He has emptied the revolver without accomplishing his own destruction, and going into the front bedroom (which he had occupied the night before) reloaded the weapon. Five empty cartridge shells were afterward found upon the floor, and an open valise, from which the fresh cartridges had been taken.

After re-loading, Perry resumed firing at himself, and this time was more successful. He put two bullets into his head, ranging upward into the brain. He fell to the floor, fatally wounded and bleeding frightfully.

EXTENSIVE WOUNDS. The neighborhood was thrown into a state of intense excitement by the reports of the pistol, and people came running to the house from all directions. Nobody would enter the house, however, for fear that whoever had been doing the shooting might resume the fusillade. Word was sent by telephone to the police station of what had happened, and Captain Lee, officer Gibson and a record-union reporter hurried to the scene of the tragedy.

Officers Arlington, Campbell and Laughlin followed soon afterward, and rendered valuable assistance in keeping the crowd out of the house.

Captain Lee and Officer Gibson were warned by the neighbors to look out for Perry, they not knowing that he had rendered himself harmless. The officers entered the house cautiously, but soon discovered the situation, and asked some of the people to come inside and assist them in caring for the wounded. The record-union reporter hurried to the scene of the tragedy, and followed soon afterward, and rendered valuable assistance in keeping the crowd out of the house.

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Andrew Thompson testified to having seen Peyran on Friday night at witness' house, 1908 H street, where he had lived for several years; on that night, however, he went to stay at Olsen's house.

H. M. LaRue, Jr., testified that on Friday night he was awakened by a loud noise in the rear of his place, and on looking out saw a dog barking furiously from Olsen's house. He called to Olsen, but got no answer, then ran and turned in an alarm, and then hastened to the burning house.

When he first heard the noise referred to he also heard a dog barking in Olsen's lot and found the dog there when he reached the place. It was a white bulldog, and called out in a loud voice, thinking that Olsen might be there.

If there was any person alive in the house he would have heard witness in time to escape. The firemen had all departed when the body was found. Deceased was found lying on his back with his head near the window. There was a large wound on the side of the head, from which the brain seemed to be oozing. The dog referred to was a stranger in that neighborhood.

John Olsen, owner of the burned house, testified that he had been living alone there. When the fire occurred he was in the crowd that rushed upon pushing into the house. The only thing they were hampered in was in securing conveyances immediately and in getting a doctor.

No other person had access to the house. Officer Gibson testified that on Saturday forenoon he examined the burned house and found no fallen timbers where the body lay that could have injured any person. Witness said he recognized the bulldog found on the premises as belonging to R. Gordon, who keeps a cigar stand down-town.

He was told by Gordon that the dog had followed a fire-engine off late in the afternoon and did not return again that night. Witness thought that was how the dog happened in that neighborhood.

Deputy Coroner Clarence Clark testified to having removed the body. It was found in the front room, and was lying diagonally across the room. There were no timbers lying across it. Near the head were found some mangled pieces of blood, which had been dried and hardened by the fire. There was a wound on the head, from which the brains had been forced out. Beneath the wound was found a quantity of blood in a natural condition. A piece of an undershirt was found with cuts in it, and dried blood on the edges of the cuts. Some splinters of deceased also bore blood-stains; a nickel watch, knife and matches were found near the body. How the body lay, also a few melted pieces of nickel coins. Apparently deceased was dressed when he died.

The fragments of clothing were exhibited by witness, and the blood-clots and cuts in them could be plainly distinguished.

The key to the rear door of the house was found under the body. It was identified by Mr. Olsen. The watch was found to have stopped at twenty-eight minutes before 12 o'clock, midnight.

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