

HE PREDICTED SAMUELS WOULD KILL HIS WIFE

Last Fall Dr. Brown Warned Mother of Essie Samuels That Accused Was Insanely Jealous and Apt to Commit a Tragedy

PATHOS IN TESTIMONY OF BLIND BROTHER

Samuels Purchased Carbohc Acid With Intention of Committing Suicide—Testimony That Wife Interfered With Family Prayers.

Testimony Late Wednesday p. m. A part of the evidence introduced during the late hours of the Wednesday afternoon session of court was that of two practitioners of medicine who testified that in their opinion, Samuels was insane. Other witnesses testified to the effect that there had long been friction in the Samuels household that existed among his lars and penates.

Fred Glaser, a sheetmetal worker who had long known Samuels, said that the defendant fell from a house that was building at Eighth and Des Moines streets. He related the details of the accident, similar to those in testimony previously recorded. Samuels had worked for four weeks preceding the fall that he received.

Collided With Samuels.

William Coleman, a negro teamster who lives at No. 1213 Morgan street, in his testimony related how he had had a collision with a horse and buggy, the latter of which was occupied by Samuels. Coleman was driving a wagon that came in contact with the buggy at 6 o'clock in the evening, at which time darkness had settled upon the earth. He said Samuels was thrown from the buggy but did not appear to have been seriously injured.

R. E. Strohmaier.

Whose home is in the rear of Oakland cemetery three years ago, had known the defendant for 25 years and was intimately acquainted with him. They visited at each other's home for a period of five years. Defendant frequently talked with witness about his children, expressing much paternal love for them. He never talked about his wife. Witness noticed little difference in the conduct of the accused after the fall that he received.

Dr. W. Frank Brown.

"Insanely jealous," was the way Dr. W. Frank Brown expressed it when interrogated as to the mental condition of Samuels. He made the somewhat sensational statement that he had advised the mother of Mrs. Samuels that Samuels was liable to kill his wife.

In his direct testimony Dr. Brown said he had practiced medicine in Keokuk for seven years. He knew Mrs. Samuels and her mother, Mrs. Bunyan, and had been the family physician for the latter. He had been called several times to attend Mrs. Samuels. He knew and occasionally talked to Samuels.

Predicted Samuels Would Kill His Wife.

Six or eight months preceding the shooting he observed that the defendant acted peculiar. He had a strong feeling that his wife was unfaithful to him. From what he saw of the defendant and heard him say he believed that Samuels was insane at the time. The witness communicated the fact to Essie Samuels' mother and told her that he was afraid that Samuels would kill his wife.

Prosecutor Craig took the witness in hand for the cross-examination which did not shake or disparage materially the direct evidence of Dr. Brown. He said he had been in general practice here but had not had over twenty cases of insanity come under his direct observation. Samuels, he said, had some form of delusional insanity, but he was not sufficient of an expert to classify it. He came to the conclusion that the accused was insane about three years ago when he saw Samuels more frequently than he did later. He presented the delusion of the unfaithfulness of his wife.

Last fall Dr. Brown came to the conclusion that Samuels was likely to kill his wife; he did not reveal his thought to Mrs. Samuels for the reason that he had not seen her since then; he told no one other than Mrs. Bunyan. This was about the time the defendant ran away to Kansas City. He knew that Samuels was connected with the West Keokuk station of the fire department, but did not mention his suspicion to the fire chief or the commissioner of public safety. Dr. Brown said his opinion was that of the average college trained physician. Insanity took various forms and he did not pretend to be an expert. He was simply giving his opinion.

In the re-direct examination Dr. Brown said that he considered the defendant to have been "insanely jealous." Witness denied that he had told Prosecutor Craig that the accused was jealous but not insane. On the contrary in the conversation with Mr. Craig he had said that Samuels was insane.

"On April 23 at the home of Mrs. Wm. Ackles did you not say that Samuels was mean enough to do anything?" queried Attorney Hartzell. "Not to my recollection," replied the witness.

Hallooed But No Response.

Charley Buss, who said he had been a resident of Keokuk for fifty years, testified that on the day that Mrs. Samuels was killed at 3 o'clock

in the afternoon he met Samuels in front of No. 601 Main street and hallooed to him four times without receiving a response. Witness said: "Hello, Joe," I said; no answer; "hello, Joe," no answer; the third time there was no answer; "hello, Joe," I said and still there was no reply. And I was only three or four feet away at the time. I couldn't get him to engage in conversation though we had always been friends. He was totally oblivious of his surroundings. I didn't think he was in his right mind at all; he showed no signs of having been drinking. The appearance of his eyes and their wild, bewildered look made a terrible impression on me."

In the cross examination conducted by Mr. Craig, Mr. Buss said he had seen much of the accused during the past few years and had known him for a period of over twenty years. Witness thought the accused was insane from his actions and appearance and when he read the accounts of the shooting he could not help but connect the two circumstances. No one seemed to be in the company of Samuels when witness met him on Main street.

Blind Brother of Accused Testifies.

One of the somewhat pathetic scenes of the afternoon was the appearance on the witness stand of Harry B. Samuels, the blind brother of the accused. He presented his testimony with much direction and intelligence. Harry, so well known about Keokuk, said he was 33 years of age and had been blind since he was nine months old. He remembered the marriage of his brother to Essie Bunyan, at Joliet, Ill. For fourteen years witness had been employed in the manufacture of brooms, but was now engaged in the grocery business. During the past three or four years he had been with his brother frequently, and a year ago the past winter he was at the home of the accused for a week. About three years ago he was with his brother when the latter came to the parental home at Fourteenth and Concert streets, at which time the folks got witness to stay with him.

Accused Threatened Suicide.

Harry Samuels testified: "I did not know what the trouble was with my brother, but I noticed that there was a change in him; he was not himself. Previously I could say or do anything with him, but this time he told me to go away and not to bother him. Joe had a bottle of carbolic acid and I found it in the bed. He came home from a fire and slept with me; I felt the bottle and I told my sister and she took it away from him; Joe then told me that he intended to take the poison."

"At a later time he did not want me to go down town with him, which we had been accustomed to doing. I saw him the day he is said to have killed his wife; he was at home at 12 o'clock but I did not hear him say anything."

In the cross-examination, witness said it was about three years since the carbolic incident.

Fire Chief Believed Him Insane.

John Anderson, chief of the fire department, who said he had been a resident of Keokuk since 1866, testified that the defendant had been under him in the fire department for five or six months prior to the time that he was locked up in jail. He had noticed that Samuels was falling away in weight, was haggard in appearance and his face was drawn, and he was nervous for a period of from six to eight weeks preceding the death of Mrs. Samuels. He had discussed the change with his wife, Mrs. Anderson, and with George Yeager, driver for the West Keokuk station.

During the past winter witness saw a scar on the face of the defendant who told him his wife and mother-in-law had jumped on him and that the latter had hit him with the 111 lifter of a stove. Witness once had a conversation with Mrs. Samuels as to the amount of money that Joe gave her out of his salary.

"Did the defendant tell you at that time that he went home drunk and struck his wife?" asked the prosecutor in cross-examination. A negative response was elicited.

Chief Anderson said he recommended Samuels for captain of the West Keokuk station and in the cross-examination denied that he had said that Samuels was insane. But judging from the defendant's appearance at the time previously indicated and what he did later witness believed that Samuels was insane but did not think so until after the death of the wife of the accused.

George Yeager.

A fireman at the West Keokuk station who had known the defendant for twenty-five years, said he was stationed there from August until the time that Samuels killed his wife. For a month or six weeks preceding the occurrence Samuels ate his meals in the station. He and the defendant slept upstairs, the latter had poor rest, and rolled and tumbled in his bed during the nights. One night he found him sitting up in bed resting on his arm. Witness testified that the accused frequently said that he thought much of his family and children. For several weeks preceding the shooting he did not talk much and seemed to be worried. He and his wife were separated for two weeks previous to the latter's death. Responding to cross-examination questions the witness said that Samuels did his work well at the station. He



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did not know whether he was insane or not.

Sister of Accused. Mrs. Clarence Kinnaman, a sister of Samuels, was the next witness called to the stand. She testified that Samuels ate dinner with her on the day that the shooting occurred. After the meal he took \$2 from his pocket and said: "Take this for my dinner." Mrs. Kinnaman replied: "Are you crazy Joe?" Samuels said: "I don't know whether I am or not." He had never been expected to pay for his meals and had not previously offered to do so.

Edward Keraghan. Of No. 510 N. Thirteenth street, a plumber by trade, testified that on the day of the accident that Samuels came to the shop where he was employed between 10 and 11 o'clock and he noticed the appearance and actions of the defendant. The latter

said he had been out to the water power and gave us some pictures that he had picked up in the Hubinger barn as he was returning to town. At that time witness had no opinion either as to the sanity or insanity of the accused.

Martin Hesbacher. Who said he had been a resident of Keokuk since 1854, knew the defendant, who brought to his shop a number of picture cards of children and babies, some of which he distributed.

Mr. Hesbacher gave further testimony that was somewhat different in character to any evidence previously produced. He said that a year ago last April he was working at the home of Samuels from 9 o'clock in the morning until noon, Mrs. Samuels and a man whose identity he was not acquainted entered the residence through the rear door. Shortly after their arrival the children were out playing in the yard. Witness did not see the man leave while he was there but he might have done so by the side door without having been observed by the witness.

Ben Crowell. Had known the defendant all his life and frequently talked with him during which conversations Samuels said he was having trouble with his wife. One day he came crying, saying that if it were not for his mother-in-law that he could get along with his wife.

Interfered With Family Prayers. The witness declared that Samuels told him that when he would ask his wife to go to church with him that she would curse him and not permit the children to attend Sunday school. A second time the accused was crying and told Crowell that he was in trouble at home, that he was trying to get along the best he could but that his mother-in-law interfered in every way. He often spoke about the interference as to church attendance and with his children going to Sunday school.

Responding to a question propounded by Prosecutor Craig witness said that Samuels had said nothing to him about running away with a woman to Kansas City and living with her there for several days as man and wife.

Irwin Davis who lives near the Des Moines river bridge, testified that he had lived for two years near the home of Joe Samuels and visited him frequently. During that period Joe joined church. In his home he tried to have family prayers with his children but his wife "made light" of the matter. When his children would be gathered about Samuels and he would be reading the bible Mrs. Samuels said: "There's Joe Samuels trying to be a church member—look at him." On the day of the shooting witness met Samuels on Main street between Sixth and Seventh streets and in the conversation that followed Samuels said that he had tried to live a right life but that he "was worse off now than ever."

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C. B. AND Q. IS OPPOSING IT

Railroad Resists Order for Platform Removal at Fort Madison so City Can Open up Walnut Street.

RESTRAINING ORDERS

Deputy United States Marshal Served Them on all City Officials—Action in Court Has Been Started.

The C. B. & Q. railway intends to resist the part of the action of the city of Fort Madison in ordering Walnut street opened, which demanded that the company remove the platform or part of the platform at the west end of the local freight depot. The company was given notice on May 9 and ordered to remove the platform within thirty days. In their resistance the company shows indications of involving the railroad in a legal entanglement with the city in the federal courts, a deputy United States marshal of Des Moines appearing in the city yesterday, waiting on the mayor, the city council and the street commissioner and serving orders temporarily restraining them from any disturbance of the platform.

Through George B. Stewart, the company's attorney, an action has been commenced in the United States circuit court to restrain the city from removing or in any wise interfering

with the platform. On an order of Judge McPherson, issued last Monday, the hearing of the application for the temporary injunction has been set for October 17, 1911, at Keokuk. The temporary restraining orders, served by the U. S. marshal yesterday, were also issued by Judge McPherson last Monday.

The company is basing its claim on three grounds: an old ordinance previously given the K. & St. P. R. R., conferring the ground to them, said possession rights having been acquired by the C. B. & Q.; that the platform is not on Walnut street; that the city's thirty years' consent to the company's use of the grounds stops further title by the city.

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