

BOERS READY TO LEAVE NATAL

WILL RETURN

EVA WOOD, ANGRY, SLAPS AT LAWYER.

After Testifying that Shaw Told Her He Killed His Mother and Grandmother She Resented Attack on Her Character.

(Special to The Evening World.) CAMDEN, N. J., March 27.—The promised sensation in the conspiracy case, for which the two reporters, Sloan and May, are being tried, was sprung this morning by Miss Eva Wood once Eli Shaw's fiancée.

Prior to Miss Wood's testimony Policeman Hartman said that he had secreted himself in a saloon where, when threatened by a man to whom he owed money, Eli Shaw had confessed to killing his grandmother and mother.

But Miss Wood was the important witness. She was arrayed in bright but harmonious colors and was calm throughout the ordeal.

WANTED TO GO HOME.

She said on the night before the morning the story was published of Shaw's confession she accompanied him to Philadelphia, where she remained at the home of a friend of hers. She wanted to return home, but Shaw insisted upon staying at her friend's house until morning. Shaw told me that he had met Mr. Hay and another reporter on Federal street in Camden and that Darnell was implicated in the trouble.

The next morning he sent me out to get a paper. I thought he wanted an inquirer because he wanted a position. He became impatient and went out himself before I returned.

When he came back he had a Times and showed me the confession and asked me what I thought of it.

I told him he would have to go to Camden and deny it. He answered that it was true and that he had confessed to the reporters.

ADMITTED HIS CRIME.

I told him to deny the truth of the story and that I would stand by him, and added that if he didn't I would expose him to my friends and family of the murder of his mother and grandmother.

Upon cross-examination Miss Wood said she had broken with Shaw soon after her confession, but had always spoken to him when passing on the street since that time.

As soon as Miss Wood finished her testimony, she with her mother and sister left the court-room.

HIS CONFESSION.

Detective Miller who kept the saloon where Police Officer Hartman said he heard Shaw confess to a crime, was called and corroborated the policeman's story that Shaw had confessed to him that he committed the murder.

As Miller left the stand Shaw was called and admitted having a conversation with Miller about a debt.

"Did you admit the murder to him?" "No, not to my knowledge," replied Shaw.

This reply caused a rustle among the spectators.

SHAW'S DENIAL.

"Did you admit to Miss Wood that the story was true?" "Positively not."

She admitted that he refused to go.



MISS EVA WOOD.

RICH BROOKLYN MAN MET VIOLENT DEATH.

Surprise was created in Brooklyn this afternoon, when the secret leaked out of the coroner's office that William Henderson, a wealthy mineral-water manufacturer, who went to Florida two months ago with Hugh McLaughlin, the Democratic Boss of Brooklyn, and a party of friends, had met death by violence.

The body of Mr. Henderson was shipped here March 27 last, and the announcement was then made that he had died of heart disease.

The body was in charge of Thomas F. Nevins, ex-Fire Chief, who was also one of the Florida party. Mr. Nevins returned the same day.

A few days ago the coroner's physician removed the remains from a vault in Greenwood Cemetery, performed an autopsy and found wounds and bruises which caused death.

Mr. Henderson lived at 331 Thirteenth street, Brooklyn, with his wife, three sons and two daughters. It had been his habit for ten years to spend part of the winter in Florida. When the McLaughlin party left, in January, Henderson joined them. They went to Merritt's Island, on the Indian River, where ex-Fire Chief Thomas F. Nevins, of Brooklyn, runs the River View Hotel.

News reached Brooklyn on March 15 that Henderson had died of heart failure. It was said that his body was found outside his room in the morning and it was believed he had died while summoning aid.

The family engaged Undertaker Andrew J. Curran, of 5 Third street, Brooklyn, and while he was preparing to embalm the body he discovered a clot of blood on the head and a number of cuts.

10 P. M. EXTRA

NURSE AND THREE CHILDREN FOUND NEARLY SUFFOCATED.

Mary Hain, forty years old, a nurse and her three charges, John, Leo and Walter Bortwood, aged three, five and seven years respectively, were found unconscious in a room at 527 East Thirty-first street this afternoon. The room was filled with escaping gas. They were removed to the Presbyterian Hospital.

TWO BIG TRUST COMPANIES TO MERGE

The directors of the Merton Trust Company to-day voted unanimously in favor of consolidation with the State Trust Company, the merged corporation to bear the name of the Merton Trust Company, and have \$2,000,000 capital.

POLICEMAN SMITH'S SLAYER MUST DIE

Word was received at the District-Attorney's office this afternoon that the Court of Appeals had affirmed the conviction of Fritz Meyer, who shot and killed Policeman Smith in the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer, in November, 1897. Meyer was sentenced to be electrocuted, and has been in Sing Sing for over two years.

REPORTED CONFESSION IN GOEBEL TRAGEDY

FRANKFORD, March 27.—W. H. Cullon this afternoon sent for Commonwealth Attorney Franklin, and it was reported that he was making a confession in regard to the Goebel assassination.

COMSTOCK ACCUSED OF BETRAYING FRIENDS

Anthony Comstock's friends, Capt. F. Norton Goddard and Theron G. Strong, have turned against him, because he had the word "knowing" so inserted in the "Pillows" and lottery bill that its purpose they think is practically negatived. "In the present shape," says Mr. Strong, "the bill is impotent." Capt. Goddard said: "If Mr. Comstock approves the insertion of the word 'knowingly,' he played us false."

HAVE HILL AND M'LAUGHLIN SPLIT?

Politicians in discussing the situation to-day wondered whether there has been a break between Hill and Hugh McLaughlin. They have always been good political friends and Hill has helped the old Brooklyn leader in several hard situations. That he has consented, even in the person of counsel, to aid Senator Coffey, who is under the boss's severest displeasure, has caused something of a sensation in Kings.

McLaughlin has vowed to "roast" Coffey so that he won't be fit for political betting; but the Senator has all along smiled and told his friends to wait and hear something more.

That very thing is probably about to happen. Papers were served to-day by Isaac M. Kapper and Assistant Corporation Counsel Luke B. Slaughter, attorneys for Senator Michael J. Coffey, on the General Democratic Committee of Kings County, notifying the committee that they were to be dissolved.

BURGHERS MASSING FOR GENERAL RETIREMENT.

MRS. KEEFE IS NOT GUILTY, SAYS JURY.

Wife Accused of Sending Bad Letters to Rival Acquitted.

The jury in the slander case of Mrs. Lillie F. Parrish against Mrs. Julia Keefe rendered a verdict of not guilty in the United States District Court this afternoon.

MRS. KEEFE'S OWN STORY.

"I AM A VICTIM OF AWFUL PLOT."

By Mrs. Julia Keefe. Dictated to an Evening World Reporter.

I have admitted on the witness stand writing letters to Mrs. Lillian Parrish. Why did I do it?

She took my husband from me. She has ruined my home and wrecked my life. I knew what she was doing. She did it under my eyes. I tried to stop her by warning letters. When these failed and brought nothing but abuse from her, I filed suit for divorce. Then my letters were placed in the mails, and this attempt planned to make me a violator of the Postal laws.

I wrote nothing obscene. My letters were those of an honest woman full of just anger. No, I did not sign my name to them. Mrs. Keefe's conscience knew whence they came. I have her answers to them to show that.

OUR SORRY DAY.

It was a sorry day when Dr. Keefe and I moved to 38 Hasbrouck avenue, in Kingston, two years ago. We had been happily married for three years. Dr. Keefe began to pay frequent visits to the grocery kept by Martin Parrish, across the street, at 95 Hasbrouck avenue. He would find excuses to go to the store, and remain for hours talking with Mrs. Parrish.

I reproached him, and said we would buy our groceries elsewhere, from some of his patients. Immediately he became the Parrish's family physician. Mr. Parrish was ill with a chronic liver trouble, and Dr. Keefe was constantly making calls. The Parrishes lived at 165 Highland avenue, but Dr. Keefe's professional duties brought him to the grocery where Mrs. Parrish held forth.

Then the doctor remained away from home all night. He said his professional duties kept him out. He was always absent from home on Saturday nights. I had detectives follow him.

HIRED A SLEUTH.

One night in company with a detective and some friends, I followed Dr. Keefe. After what we saw I filed suit for divorce naming Mrs. Parrish as co-respondent.

Transports Packed at Biggarsberg, It Is Said, and All Preparations Made for Escape in Case of Necessity.

LADYSMITH, Natal, March 27.—The Boers are massing in their entrenched positions at the Biggarsberg, and their transport trains are packed at Newcastle in readiness to facilitate their retreat in case necessity requires such a step.

LONDON, March 27.—Reconnaissance of slight importance continue to be the only features of the war in South Africa. Lord Roberts is still at Bloemfontein and wired to-day to the War Office as follows:

"BLOEMFONTEIN, Monday, March 25.—Capt. Sloane-Stanley, of the Sixteenth Lancers, was slightly wounded in an affair of outposts north of the Modder River, March 25."

A despatch from Bloemfontein, dated Monday and published in the Times, amplifies Lord Roberts's despatch as follows:

"A cavalry reconnaissance was made yesterday towards Brandfort. The Sixteenth Lancers, by skirmishing, drove the Boers from their position into the open, when the Ninth Lancers attempted to outflank the enemy while they were engaged from the front by a dismounted section of the Sixteenth Lancers. Our casualties are reported to be few."

A despatch from Maseru, Basutoland, says the Basutoland Government is busy collecting natives to be employed on Bloemfontein in repairing and laying railroads. The natives report that the Free Staters on the borders of Basutoland have refused to go to Kromstad and are staying on their farms, as it is now the ploughing season and they are inclined to keep their land and submit rather than give it up and fight.

Boer reports from Natal show no developments of importance have occurred there up to March 25. A despatch from the Boer camp at Glencoe, dated March 25, says:

"No attack is expected to be made on the Boer forces in Natal. Gens. Buller and Meyer have been joined by their wives. Pretorius, with a patrol, got between an advance guard of Lancers and its main body March 25. One Lancer, who refused to surrender, was shot."

"Gen. Botha denies the reports that Transvaal women were wounded in the Tugela trenches. Gen. Buller has sent the Boers a list of their wounded, stating that he buried sixty men. Gen. Botha says this is impossible, as his rolls do not show any such loss."

RAIN STOPS TROOPS.

Wet season in Full Swing All Over South Africa—Camps Made Into Swamps.

CAPE TOWN, March 27.—Rain and general throughout South Africa, and rivers which have been dry for years are being flooded. Many camps are transformed into swamps. This will cause more ill-tide against an immediate Boer advance.

Sickness among the Boer prisoners of the transports is increasing. Deaths occurred March 25.

Railroad Man's Sudden Death. E. A. Ford, travelling passenger of the New York and Long Island Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, died suddenly at his home in New York City, March 25.

WEATHER FORECAST. Wednesday: fresh west to north wind. The following record shows change in the temperature for the morning hours, as indicated by the thermometer at Perry's Pharmacy: 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100.