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VOLUME XII.

ARDMORE, IND. TER., FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 4, 1906

NUMBER 300

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THE TRUE LOVE MURDER CASE

WOMAN CHARGED WITH MURDER OF WILL KING.

Faces Jury of Twelve Men With the Utmost Compassion—Story as Detailed to Jury By Attorneys for State and Defendant.

Without the least display of emotion and with that calmness which has characterized her every action since the government began the prosecution of the case, Nina Truelove faced a jury of twelve men yesterday, apparently the least interested of any, and with a feeling of confidence and hopefulness, listened to the tragic story of the killing of her former lover, Will King. If in her nature she is susceptible to a feeling of remorsefulness, the greatest punishment that human flesh is heir to, the woman's outward appearance did not betray it when Assistant Prosecuting Attorney James E. Humphrey told to the jury slowly and impressively the relations which had existed between the woman and the man whom she is charged with shooting to death, and what prompted the deed.

According to the statement made by the prosecution it was charged that the woman killed King in order to get even with him because of alleged desertion. The government will attempt to prove a state of facts that will tend to show that the Truelove woman and King had had trouble and that friends of King had been endeavoring to break up the relations existing between her and the deceased; that the statement was made that in the event that King tried to quit her she would kill him; that when the dead man failed to show up as was his custom, the woman went out to look for him; that when she returned to her house she found King there; that a quarrel took place and that following this King was shot.

In his statement of the case, Col. Stillwell H. Russell, after touching upon the relations between the woman and King, strongly maintained that it would be shown that the killing was an accident.

Col. Humphrey's Statement to the Jury.

"Gentlemen of the jury: By permission of the court, I will state to you that this is the case where the defendant, Nina Truelove, is charged with the murder of Will King. The defendant claims that the shooting was done accidentally, the killing being admitted. The evidence on behalf of the government will show about this state of facts:

"Will King was part owner of a hack line here in Ardmore. His partner in this business was Tom Carter, and as you know, the hacks here in Ardmore run night and day. By agreement of the partners, Will King would go on duty about five or six o'clock in the afternoon and drive the rest of the night—that is, until he had filled all the calls he had and had met the night trains; and it was the duty of Mr. Carter, the other owner, to take the hack out the next morning and drive it during the day.

"It will develop from the testimony that Will King was a married man and had become infatuated with the defendant in this case, who was running a sporting house in the east part of Ardmore. It seems that for several months prior to this killing it had been the custom of King to meet the trains coming in along about midnight, and after that to put up his team and go down and stay with Nina until about daylight the next morning. He would then go home and sleep until about noon, and he would then come to town in the afternoon and go to her house and stay there awhile in the afternoon.

"It will be shown by the testimony in this case that about six weeks or two months prior to this killing, and possibly at other times, they had quarreled. That she had on different occasions thrown things at him; that they had had a fight. Will came up town and got his partner to go down there and fix it up. They went down and she was under the influence of liquor, and was cursing and raising a racket. Mr. Garrett, the chief of police, went down there and got her and was bringing her up town to lock her up, and she began cursing and

calling him a ———. Mr. Garrett asked her about whom she was talking, and she informed him that she had reference to Will King. She then began to curse Mr. Garrett.

The evidence will further show that the friends of King had been trying for some time to get him to break away from this woman."

Mr. Russell: "We object to this unless it is shown that the defendant had knowledge of his friend."

Over-ruled by the court.

Mr. Humphrey: "A short time before this killing, I think on Saturday evening, and the killing was on Monday—at any rate a short time before the killing—I expect to have a witness to show that in talking with him about Will King, the defendant told him, the witness, that in the event King tried to quit her, she was going to kill him—this I believe was on Saturday night before the killing. On the Sunday night before the killing we expect to show that King was out with Mr. Garrett, the chief of police, and did not go down and spend the night with the defendant, as was his custom. He was not there at the house on Monday morning and this killing was about 4 or 5 o'clock in the evening, and he had not been there that day, and that she thought that he had quit her. That she went over to the livery stable where the hack was kept, looking for him; that he was not there; that she met Tom Carter, the partner of the deceased, and told him (Carter) that she would get even with King if it cost her five hundred dollars. She asked Carter where King was, and Carter indicated that he was at her house. The evidence will show that she went home; that King was there; that they had some words, and about five minutes after this time the killing occurred. At the time of the killing the other girls, the inmates of the house, were out in the dining room to dinner; they heard the smashing of crockery and then screams, and rushed in there and found the deceased with a bullet hole through the stomach. The evidence will show that the deceased was unarmed at the time. His pistol was there in the house in Nina's room. The defendant gave Mr. Garrett the pistol of deceased there at the time and also the pistol with which the killing was done. We expect to show that the deceased made a statement to Mr. Enoch Boucher, the substance of which is that the killing was not accidental. This statement was made in the presence of Mr. Garrett, the girls there in the house, and the doctor who had been summoned. Upon this evidence, gentlemen, we will ask you for a conviction."

Col. Russell for the Defendant.

"I will now give you a brief outline of what the testimony in this case will be.

"It will be shown by the testimony here that the defendant kept this house in the east part of town. That she had kept it for some time. It will be further shown that Will King was a married man; that he had a wife and one or two children; that he lived here in the city. It will be shown by the testimony in this case, both by the witnesses for the defense and the government, that Will King had for some time been what they term a lover of Nina's. We expect to show that, notwithstanding the fact that he was a married man and lived here in town, that he had for a long time kept a woman over there. Then at this very time he had kept a woman there for a long time. It will be shown that the deceased got in with the defendant and sustained these relations with her. She was in that business—was paying fines to run that business, or as an occupation tax to the city of Ardmore. It will be shown that she did nothing to entice Will King into these relations with her. She was in that business. King knew it, and for some seven or eight months before this homicide these two people had been lovers.

The statement made by Mr. Humphrey that some three or four months before this they had some trouble is correct, but it will be shown that they fixed that up and after that time were more loving than ever.

"In this case we expect to prove a motive for the evidence of Carter. While he was the friend and partner of King, yet he sought to enjoy the embraces of the defendant in this case. King had been informed of this and he in turn had informed Carter of his knowledge. When Carter was told

of this he was angry.

"It will be shown by the testimony, gentlemen of the jury, not as stated by Mr. Humphrey that Mr. King was not down there on Sunday night, but we will show by the evidence that he was there on Sunday night, or rather Monday morning; that he slept there as was his custom; that about daylight he left, and that when he left he requested the defendant to come up to the barn that evening as he wanted to show her a colt. That will account for her being at the barn. That when she returned to the house that King was there. They went in and were talking as usual. The girls went out to dinner. King and the defendant were cleaning these two pistols—had already cleaned one of them and was cleaning the other—that when they pushed the cylinder in the gun was discharged and Mr. King was killed. We expect to show that just as soon as the shot rang out the defendant began to hollow and scream; that she had shot, 'her Will.' We expect to show by a young man who had just been in town a day or so that he was passing the house, that he heard the shot and the screams and ran up there; that the defendant met him at the door and told him that she had shot 'her Will,' and that it was accidental. That she showed the officers after their arrival how the killing took place. The statement made to Mr. Boucher was not made to any one else. Mr. Shaw was the first one of the policemen to reach the scene and he did not hear this statement. Mr. Garrett was also there at the time and he did not hear the statement. Neither did any of the girls.

"As I have stated, she at all times claimed that this shooting was accidental, and when they started to take her away she asked permission to kiss him good bye. This permission was granted and she went over and kissed him before she was carried away."

When court convened this morning the same eager crowd of spectators that haunted the court room the day previous was on hand, being drawn there by the morbid desire to listen to a case that is sensational in all of its features. If Americans love sensations they are apt to find it in the Truelove case. The question of who the parties are does not lessen the desire of the spectators. Therefore it is not unusual to say that a sensational killing, whether accidental or otherwise, will draw people who believe in law and order, to a scene where the tragedy is related in detail.

The court announced today that the Truelove case would probably occupy the balance of the week, and all jurors were excused until that time. Many, however, remained in the court room, no less curious than others, to listen to the testimony.

The defendant, Nina Truelove, was on hand early and as usual wore a black dress. The court opened promptly at 9 o'clock and before resuming the case a few motions were disposed of.

If the south part of the room a woman of perhaps 50 years, is quietly awaiting the result of a trial. This woman seemed imbued with more interest than the defendant, who today exhibited more anxiety than she has since the trial commenced. The woman of 50 years is the mother of Nina Truelove. She comes into the court room in a quiet way. Two small brothers of the defendant are also on hand.

(Stenographic Report by F. V. Kin-kaid.)

Tom Craddock, being first duly sworn, testified:

"I live in Ardmore. Am now working for a publishing house located in Oklahoma City. In November, 1905, was in the grocery business here. I knew the defendant, Nina Truelove, and heard of the death of King. I was at the house of the defendant about six weeks before the killing and at that time there was some trouble between them. I went there at the time for the purpose of delivering a barrel of beer. While I was in Nina's room to collect for the beer Will King came in and they started a racket and I started to leave. They were in the room on the south side of the house at that time. She seemed to be intoxicated and was on the bed when King came in. Some one told her that King was there and she said that she did not wish to see him. He went over to the bed and said

(Continued on Page Eight.)

TEXAS DAILY STORM REPORT

MUCH PROPERTY DESTROYED AND PERSONS INJURED.

Literary Torrents of rain has fallen and All Streams and Lowlands Are Flooded—Railroads Suffer—Bridges Washed Away.

Leonard, Tex., May 3.—About 6 p. m., from three to five miles north east of here there was a veritable cyclone. Some twelve houses and barns were demolished.

W. A. Sudderth's house was blown down, but no one was hurt.

W. L. Driggers' house is a complete wreck. His son was slightly hurt.

The Johnson family was hurt, but to what extent is not known. No one was killed.

Bailey, Tex., May 3.—A small cyclone struck four miles southwest of this place yesterday about 6 o'clock, destroying several farm houses and a number of barns.

The home of a Mr. Brown, in which were twelve persons at the time, was struck and completely demolished, being crushed like an eggshell, but not a person was hurt.

Paris, Tex., May 3.—Parties in from from Arthur City reported a 25-foot rise in Red river. The water rose 5 feet last night and was running out of banks in low places, but at 6 o'clock this morning was stationary, and it is thought that the rise has reached its height. Tenants in the bottom below Slate Shoals moved out and cattle were driven yesterday to the hills. Several skiffs and ferriesboats adrift have passed down stream.

At Slate Shoals a houseboat containing bedding, furniture, clothing, etc., was caught yesterday evening. A new ferryboat, which is supposed to have come from the Hong on the territory side passed Slate Shoals this morning. The ferryboat at Garrett's bluff was swept away last night.

Clarksburg, Tex., May 3.—There was a heavy hailstorm about eight miles north of this place this afternoon, the strip being two miles wide and several miles long. Fruit trees were stripped of fruit and leaves and crops were almost totally ruined. A good many cattle were also slightly hurt, but none seriously, so far as heard.

Vineyard, Tex., May 3.—Today at noon one of the hardest rains in the history of the country fell here. It was accompanied by hail and lightning. The hail did considerable damage to fruit and crops.

At 4:15 there was another hard rain and wind. All streams are overflowed, culverts are washed out, and much damage done to roads. At this writing the full extent of the damage cannot be learned, as phones are broken and useless.

At last account the creek was bank full and still rising. Many people have moved to higher ground. At 10:30 it is threatening rain, which if it comes will cause much damage by overflowing.

Kopper, Tex., May 3.—A heavy rain fell here this morning, which left everything in excellent shape. Telephone messages from Kimball report that the Brazos river has risen seven feet in the last three hours and is still rising very fast. The first fifteen minutes after the rise started the river registered five feet. A large amount of bridge timber is passing with the drift.

OIL TANKS CONSUMED.

With Derrick and Machinery All Goss Up in Smoke.

Tulsa, I. T., May 3.—At an early hour this morning twenty-two oil tanks, two derricks and considerable machinery on the Glenn lease near Mounds were destroyed by fire. The property belonged to Chesley & Galbreith, the tanks containing about 9,000 barrels of oil. The loss is estimated at \$12,000.

Lawn hose, absolutely the best ever manufactured, at 12 1/2c to 25c a foot.

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Daily Ardmoreite 50c per month.

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