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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH: MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1902

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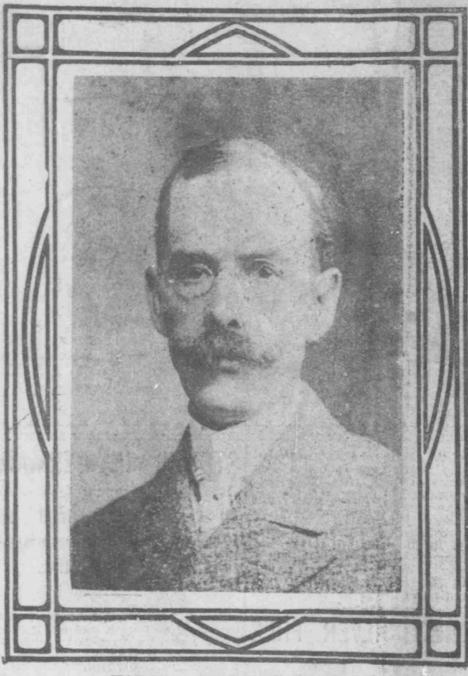
## ALEX. A. ROBERTSON IN HANDS OF THE LAW

### BANK TELLER, CRUSHED IN SPIRIT, SURRENDERS HIMSELF

Admits Shortage of Between \$80,000 and \$90,000, But Says Others Are Responsible.

Tragic Story of Day and Night in the Hills, and Why He Failed to Take His Own Life.

ALEXANDER A. ROBERTSON has returned and is in the hands of the law. He gave himself up, after a dismal night spent in a dug-out among the foothills, less than a mile from home. He admits that there is a shortage of anywhere from \$80,000 to \$90,000 at Wells, Fargo & Co.'s bank, but declares emphatically that he has not personally used one cent of the money. The defalcations extend over a period of several years, and, in conversation with friends, he said that Harry T. Duke, assistant cashier of the bank, knows all about the shortage. "Being a good fellow once has got me into this trouble," is his explanation. "It was a matter of obliging a friend."



HARRY T. DUKE—Johnson Photo.

Fiction is rivaled by the story of Robertson's disappearance, his wanderings and his home-coming. His misconduct as teller at the bank reached that point where exposure was inevitable, or, at least, the fear of discovery, caused a strain upon his mind that was tragic. Suicide was the only path out of the difficulty that Robertson could see. He determined to follow it. He went into the hills with his gun to kill himself. Overtaken by a rainstorm, he sought shelter in a narrow cave. While there he saw his friends searching for him. They passed within ten feet of his hiding place Saturday afternoon and he heard their expressions of sorrow and sympathy, but successfully avoided detection.

Then began a battle in his mind. All day and all night it raged, with the result that he determined to give himself up to the police. Just before daylight yesterday morning, he left the spot where for nearly twenty-four hours he had been left to his thoughts, and went to his home.

#### Found the Half-demented Teller.

At 12:30 yesterday afternoon he was accidentally discovered there by Councilman A. J. Davis and Detective George A. Sheets. He was in a tragic frame of mind, threatening to kill his best friends and himself if they came near him. After much persuasion, the half-demented man was brought to his senses and all day long he was in the company of Mr. Sheets in the little attic of the Ferris home. Meanwhile, more than a dozen persons, including newspaper men, were informed of the return of the wanderer. With marvelous luck and the exercise of diplomatic skill, the news was kept from the public until 10:30 last night. At that hour the teller was put into a carriage, accompanied by friends and attorneys, and driven to the residence of Chief of Police Paul. Attorney Joe Lippman alighted and got the chief out of bed. He told him that Robertson was ready to be taken into custody, and led the astonished official to the carriage. It was quickly arranged that Robertson should remain with Detective Sheets all night and, after a meal, they sought a sleeping place, where the teller, broken in spirits and wrought up to a terrible state of mind, went to bed. The search for Robertson continued all day and part of last night. His friends would not have it said that he was arrested and therefore maintained rigid secrecy. Cashier Dooly knew nothing of the news. The police were still out at a late hour. Sheriff Naylor and Deputy Sheriff Raleigh were in the foothills prosecuting the search until midnight. Chief Paul issued a notice of reward during the afternoon. It stated that Robertson had absconded with about \$20,000 of the bank's money, and a reward of \$500 for his capture was offered, with 10 per cent of the money recovered. The offer was withdrawn late last night when Robertson gave himself up.

### DOWNPOUR OF RAIN BRINGS MENTAL BATTLE THAT SAVES ROBERTSON'S LIFE

The beginning of the remarkable story, as related in yesterday's Herald, was true. Robertson had the conversation with Miss Cadwell, in which she used all her persuasive powers to have him leave the shotgun at home, but to no avail.

Alex. Robertson's mind was set upon one thing, and one thing only, when he left the Ferris cottage at 8:20 Saturday morning. He was determined to kill himself.

The unfortunate man walked north on Eleventh East to the foothills, not more than a half-mile from the house. Suddenly he was overtaken by a heavy downpour of rain, and but for this storm, as later developments proved, Robertson would have carried out his purpose.

The despondent man sought shelter, with the idea of protecting not only himself, but his cartridges, of which he had only two. He took refuge in a little dugout in Thomas canyon, a short distance due east of the north end of the city cemetery. The place dignified by the name of "canyon" is only a narrow, shallow gulch, but it was suitable, being out of view from all of the Darlington houses.

He sat inside his rude waiting place, only partially protected, and as the storm continued, the water poured in and drenched his clothing. This was the condition surrounding the bank teller when his senses began to return. He reflected on the consequences of suicide. He would be damned. That was beyond question. But above that, what would his friends believe and how much criticism would they be subjected to? That was the ruling thought in Robertson's mind, and his soliloquy lasted many hours.

#### Sees Friends Searching For Him.

It was about 12:30 in the afternoon and Robertson was still in his dug-out, when he heard voices. He drew himself into the hole as far as possible and awaited developments. Within the course of a few minutes, he saw City Councilman Davis, City Recorder Nystrom, Detective Sheets and Jack May searching the locality. He overheard most of their conversation, and at one time Davis and Nystrom passed within ten feet of him, but did not observe his hiding place.

The sight of these fast friends beating up the brush, searching everywhere for him, their sympathetic and sorrowful words, had a decisive effect upon the state of Robertson's mind. They went away from the spot and again he felt to debating with himself over what course to pursue.

All night long he remained in the gulch with the loaded gun, and finally, about 4 a. m., firmly resolved to give himself up to the police, he started for town. It was not yet daylight, and when he reached the Ferris cottage he concluded to go in and wait. He found nobody in the house. Lying down, he tried to sleep, but could not. He did not strike any light in the house, but, with the approach of day, made for the attic, and remained there.

Early yesterday morning, a number of mounted soldiers from Fort Douglas and a good many friends of the missing man renewed the search for his body. Robertson had been seen by a cow herder to enter Thomas' canyon and the majority of those engaged in the search explored the ravine and the surrounding hills, while others, in groups of two and three, rode out in all directions, between Red Butte canyon, behind Fort Douglas, to City Creek canyon. There was, of course, no sign of the missing teller.

#### Face to Face With Missing Man.

At noon Robertson's friends were heart-sick and discouraged over the fruitless results of the search, and somebody suggested that bloodhounds be secured at the state penitentiary and set upon the trail. The suggestion was quickly taken up, and the hounds were brought to town. Councilman

Davis superintended this part of the work. He went at once to the Ferris home and found a crowd of morbidly curious persons there. Entering the cottage, Mr. Davis went upstairs in search of a piece of the missing man's clothing to give the scent to the dogs.

As he pushed open the door of the attic, the most dramatic scene of the whole affair was encountered. In the middle of the room stood Alex. Robertson, with the shotgun pointed directly towards the councilman and his finger upon the trigger. There was a wild glare in his eye, his cheeks were sunken, his face pale.

"What's the matter, Rob?" he asked. "Don't come in; I'll shoot," was the reply. Realizing the necessity of diplomacy, Mr. Davis backed out of the doorway. To prevent any excitement it was imperative to get rid of the crowd in front of the house.

Mr. Davis picked up the first piece of clothing within reach and went out. He shook it in the faces of the bloodhounds and in an instant they started off towards the corner, barking madly. The crowd, of course, followed, and soon there was no sign of life at the Ferris residence.

Mr. Davis and Detective Sheets, the only persons who at this moment knew Robertson's whereabouts, then climbed the stairs to the attic. They called to "Rob," but got only a sullen response. Opening the door, they found the despondent, haggard man sitting upon a bed. Between his knees was the double-barreled shotgun, the butt end resting upon the floor and the two muzzles immediately under his chin. Both hammers were cocked, and Robertson had his fingers within reach of the triggers.

#### Calmed Desperate Man Down.

The sight was one at which any man would have shuddered, and how to wield the necessary influence over him to prevent death was the problem that confronted two of Robertson's staunchest friends. How they accomplished it, the two men do not know. They remember pleading long and earnestly with "Rob," and telling him that his friends would see that he was vindicated if he had got into trouble at the bank. Gradually, a more cheerful expression came over the clouded countenance and, in time, he surrendered the shotgun.

The whole affair was then talked over. "It was a thousand times easier to end it all with this gun, as I wanted to," said Robertson, "than to come back here, but in justice to my friends I concluded to face it."

He told his friends the whole story of the shortage at the bank and his wanderings. The rainstorm, he said, had saved his life. Robertson consented to remain in the house with Detective Sheets until 10 o'clock at night, with the understanding that at that hour he would have a consultation with his attorneys, and then give himself up to the police.

### ADMITS HAVING SHORTAGE AT BANK, BUT SAYS OTHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE

With the morbidly curious crowd in front of Robertson's home dispersed by the galling away of the bloodhounds to the foothills, Councilman A. J. Davis, Detective Sheets and City Recorder Nystrom proceeded to learn from their friend in distress the cause of his predicament through his connection with the bank. They had already been told by him how he had gone toward the mountain with the intention of ending all in the silence of his death, but they wanted to be assured that he could vindicate himself of the charge that he is a defaulter for a large amount. Robertson was in no frame of mind to discuss the matter at length, but amid distracting sobs he made a clean breast of his friends.

"It is true," he admitted, "that there is a discrepancy of between \$80,000 and \$90,000 at the bank, but I have not had the money. I admit I have gambled some."

After a pause to recover his mental equilibrium temporarily, Robertson continued: "This would not have happened and I would not be in the fix I am in if I had not been a 'hell of a good fellow' once. It has been going on for eight or ten years, and others got the money. The cash balanced with fictitious checks and other items representing cash."

It is understood that Robertson divulged to his three faithful friends the name of at least one person connected with the bank who is alleged by him as having been the beneficiary of the paying teller's confidence and indulgence.

Once again Robertson was induced to tell something more about his affairs at the bank, but his nervous system broke down, and he was in no mood to make a further statement, except as relates to Assistant Cashier Duke's having gone to the Ferris house on Saturday for Robertson's papers. The unfortunate man was very indignant that Mr. Duke had persistently accused Miss Cadwell, the housekeeper, of destroying a certain paper containing memorandum figures. Robertson said that if any such paper was missing, it worried him not in the least. He added that there was one paper of his which contained some figures merely, the im-

(Continued on Page 2.)

## CORONATION SEPTEMBER

Queen Instructs Danish Hussars When to Return.

KING IMPROVING RAPIDLY

MANY SOCIAL FUNCTIONS ARE BEING REARRANGED.

LONDON, June 29.—Last night passed with less incident at Buckingham palace than a ny other night since the operation was performed on King Edward. There were fewer watchers outside the palace, the public apparently having accepted the announcement that the king has passed the point of immediate danger. The following bulletin was issued at 9 o'clock this morning: "The king feels stronger, in spite of some discomfort from the wound. Nothing has occurred to disturb the satisfactory progress the king is making."

This bulletin was not posted until 10 o'clock, consequently the few persons who were passing in the neighborhood of the palace were the only ones attracted to the announcement.

When the footmen had posted the notice, however, the crowds soon increased, early church-goers stopping to read the latest news, and passing on with expressions of thankfulness. A bulletin posted at the palace at 4 o'clock this afternoon said the king's progress was in every way satisfactory, and that the local discomfort had decreased.

Sunday has again been a day of intercessional service throughout the kingdom for the recovery of King Edward. In the morning a vast crowd of the general public gathered at St. Paul's cathedral. There was also present a representative gathering of government and colonial officials and uniformed colonial officers. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and their children, and Lord and Lady Lansdowne sat under the dome. An impressive service was conducted by the bishop of St. Paul's, the Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, and, at its conclusion, the whole congregation sang "God Save the King."

Queen Alexandra, the Prince of Wales and all the other members of the royal family now in London attended a similar morning service in Marlborough house chapel, while there was a large gathering of peers and peers at a service held at noon in the chapel royal at St. James palace.

Sir Francis Knollys, the king's private secretary, Sir Dighton McNaghton Probyn, keeper of the privy purse and extra equerry to the king, and almost the entire royal household attended the service. The duke and duchess of Devonshire, who had not previously left the precincts of Buckingham palace since the king was stricken, received a most sympathetic greeting.

The public was delighted with evidence of the king's continued improvement. Throughout the United Kingdom all religious denominations made a similar intercession for the sovereign's recovery. Mr. Merry del Val, the papal envoy to the coronation of King Edward, conducted a service in Brompton oratory this afternoon, his congregation including Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier and other Canadians.

Buckingham palace has worn a gayer appearance today than for a week past, and the constant coming and going of royalty and streams of carriages bore testimony to the increased confidence that the king would recover. In the afternoon a party of princesses, including the Princess of Wales, went to Sheen house, Richmond, and the Prince and Princess of Wales paid a long visit to Buckingham palace. This evening the queen and the royal ladies attended a party of princesses, and the windows in the front of the palace, many thousands of persons being gathered in the space before the building. The king was again successfully transferred from his bed to a movable couch.

Several postponed functions are being rearranged. Lord and Lady Lansdowne announced that their reception would be held July 1. The king has commanded that the Prince and Princess of Wales shall represent their majesties at the India office reception, to be held July 4. Lord Cranborne authorizes the following statement: "King Edward is rapidly getting better, and the moment, therefore, seems most appropriate for public rejoicing. As chairman of the bonfires committee, I suggest that bonfires throughout the country be lighted Monday night."

Ada Rehan was present at the services at Marlborough house chapel. Owing to some friction between the Indian and colonial officers, there will be two separate reviews on the horse guards parade. The colonial troops will be reviewed Tuesday, and the Indian troops Wednesday. The Prince of Wales will attend both days.

The czarwick, who came to London as the representative of Russia at the coronation, started for home today. The fleet at Spithead has been ordered to disperse Wednesday morning. The United States battleship left Spithead this afternoon. Twenty-five hundred of the colonial troops who came to England to be present at the coronation will sail around the world on transports tomorrow, thus being given an opportunity to witness the great gathering of warships.

**KING CABLES REGRETS TO EMPEROR WILLIAM.**

Kiel, June 29.—King Edward sent a telegram to Emperor William yesterday morning, expressing his regrets with regard to the accident to the torpedo boat No. 2 of the German navy, which was run down and sunk by a British steamer June 24 at the mouth of Elbe, and of which King Edward said he had just been informed. He also expressed his appreciation of the fact that the last order of the commander of the torpedo boat, who was drowned, was that the Englishman should be saved first.

The emperor replied to the king, saying he was deeply touched by the sympathetic message, which had immediately been signalled to the fleet.

"Every man and officer of the fleet," said the emperor in his message, "is profoundly sensible that the first act of our new admiral should have been such a kindly worded message. They beg to express their sincerest thanks for your communication and join me in prayers for the complete restoration of your precious health."

## FATAL WRECK OF COLORADO MIDLAND EXCURSION TRAIN

Terrible Catastrophe Results From Broken Rail-- One Passenger Killed and Many Injured.

Cars Containing 371 Passengers Rolled Down Steep Embankment --Coaches Smashed to Kindling Wood.

Colorado Springs, Colo., June 29.—At 10:10 this morning an excursion train on the Colorado Midland railroad, coming down the pass from Cripple Creek, struck a broken rail and seven cars rolled into a shapeless heap. One man, Francis M. English, a prominent musician of this city, was instantly killed, and about thirty other passengers were more or less seriously injured, three or four probably fatally. The complete list of killed and injured follows:

- The Dead.  
Francis M. English, Colorado Springs.
- The Injured.  
Mary O'Rourke, aged 13, 109 Portland avenue, Victor, left arm torn off, face cut and internally injured; may die.  
Dr. Estelle Lewis, 124 West Carr avenue, Cripple Creek, left wrist fractured, bruises and internal injuries; may die.  
James W. Greife, 105 West Eaton street, Cripple Creek, leg broken, face bruised.  
Frank Gayer, 321 South Eighth street, Cripple Creek, collar bone broken.  
Mary Kintzell, Goldfield, lip cut and face bruised.  
Mrs. Vanderweiden, 316 Erin street, Cripple Creek, face badly bruised.  
William Vanderweiden, her son, leg sprained.  
Vanderweiden, baby daughter, face bruised.  
Charles Carlson, Buffalo Springs, face cut badly.  
D. H. Smith, Cripple Creek, all teeth knocked out, mouth and thumb cut.  
Mrs. Simon O'Rourke, neck sprained.  
O'Rourke, her son, face cut and bruised.  
A. E. Parker, 223 Main avenue, Cripple Creek, leg sprained, head cut.  
Parker, his son, head badly cut.  
J. R. Wessmar, 816 South Nevada avenue, Colorado Springs, head cut.  
Henry Pickens, Woodland Park, back sprained.  
Mrs. George Powell, Omaha, leg broken.  
C. Turnace, 411 Colorado avenue, Cripple Creek, badly shaken up and bruised.  
L. E. Disque of Tomkins Supply company, Cripple Creek, knee badly hurt.  
R. W. Hadden, Goldfield, bad scalp wound.  
P. T. Baker, Cripple Creek, lip cut and scalp wound.  
C. B. Cotten, Cripple Creek, cuts and bruises.  
H. B. Tucker, Denver, cuts, bruises and severely shocked.  
J. H. Olds, Cripple Creek, cuts and bruises.  
H. M. Parker, Victor, cuts and bruises.  
Zava W. Samuels, mother of Jesse James; Frank James, his brother, and Jesse and Mary James, his son and daughter, attended the ceremony.

The wreck occurred at an abandoned station at Culber's siding, one mile above Cascade, in Ute pass, and twelve miles from Colorado Springs. A passenger car that has been in the railroad for seven months between the railroads running from this city to Cripple Creek had been called off, the rates to go up July 1, and as a result the train was crowded to its utmost. The cars that left the rails and went over the embankment north of the track contained 371 passengers, and it was by the most miraculous escapes that could be imagined that the death list was not enormous.

The second car on the train, a day coach, was crushed to kindling wood, being turned completely over on its end, so that the rear end of the coach was forward. The third coach plunged clear through the second, and it was in the forward end of this car that Mr. English was killed. His neck was caught between two seats, and he strangled before help could reach him. He suffered severe scalp wounds and a fracture of the jaw, and would doubtless have died even had he not been caught and choked. He was coming to Colorado Springs from Cascade to play the organ at St. Stephen's Episcopal church, where he had been organist for several years.

A relief train went to the scene from the city at once, and returned at 1:30, bringing the dead and injured. The injured were taken to St. Francis' hospital, where all are doing as well as can be expected. The little O'Rourke girl is expected to die at any time, and Miss Estelle Lewis, a dentist of Cripple Creek, is in a very critical condition.

Dr. H. P. Paekard of Gillette, Colo., who was en route to this city, was the only physician on the train. He had his instruments with him and did most heroic and efficient service before physicians and relief supplies could be rushed to the scene from this city.

The location of the wreck is such that there is no delay in traffic. The track is torn up for fully 100 yards, but it is at an old siding, and the side track was not blocked. This fact facilitates the work of clearing the wreck.

Engineer J. B. Stephen and Conductor Ben Beynon were in charge of the train.

## JESSE JAMES' SKELETON DUG UP; SON POINTED OUT HOLE IN SKULL

Kansas City, June 29.—Jesse James' body, which has been buried for twenty years in the dooryard of the old James homestead near Excelsior Springs, Mo., was disinterred today and buried in the cemetery at Kearney, Mo., beside the bodies of his father and wife. Mrs. Zava W. Samuels, mother of Jesse James; Frank James, his brother, and Jesse and Mary James, his son and daughter, attended the ceremony.

## CRUELTY SANCTIONED RESCUED IN MIDOCEAN

Filipino Papers Eulogize Smith— Say Cruel Methods Are the Wisest.

Manila, June 29.—Brigadier General Jacob H. Smith, formerly in command of the American forces on the island of Samar, who was recently tried by court-martial on charges prejudicial to good order and discipline, left here today for San Francisco on the United States army transport Thomas. A large number of persons assembled to bid him farewell.

All the newspapers of Manila have printed eulogies of General Smith, and even the Filipino papers say that the most cruel methods of ending a war are, in the long run, the wisest and the most humane.

The Twenty-fourth infantry also sailed on the Thomas.

**MURDERED HIS TENTMATE.**  
Denver, Colo., June 29.—George Meyer, a horse trainer, who has been living in a tent in the bottom near Zang's brewery with Cornelius Daley, a peddler, was found dead at noon today with his head beaten to a pulp. Daley is missing, as are Meyer's belongings, and the police are working on the theory that the peddler murdered his companion. Meyer was last seen alive last Thursday.

## IRRIGATION BILL A BOON TO THE WEST.

(Special to The Herald.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 29.—Representative Newlands of Nevada, who has, for many years, championed irrigation in congress, has given a brief outline of the effect of the bill. He says that the effective feature of the bill is its automatic action until the entire work is done, without further appropriation from congress. "In this respect," said Mr. Newlands, "it is, perhaps, the only bill ever passed which fulfills so complete, comprehensive and automatic a plan of action. Under its provisions at least \$150,000,000 of the proceeds of the sales of public lands will be available in the next thirty years for irrigation works. The receipts from the sale of public lands during the last fiscal year, as well as the present, aggregating \$5,000,000, are immediately available, and from this time on the sum of \$3,000,000 per annum will be available, which amount will be constantly increased as the lands are redeemed and sales are made. The bill is carefully guarded. The secretary of the interior cannot let contracts unless the money is in the fund. Land money is impossible. In every way the bill is guarded so as to preserve the public domain for homeseekers."