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EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LEADING PAPER

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The Famous Cropsey Mystery

And the Wilcox Murder Trial.

THE CASE REVIEWED



MISS ELLA MAUDE CROPSY.

A Man Who for the Second Time Will Face a Jury and be Tried for the Brutal Taking of a Life.

James E. Wilcox, the alleged murderer of pretty Nellie Cropsey, whose picture is here reproduced by the kind permission of the New York American...

He would hang around the church doors, on meeting nights, waiting to escort her home, and his every manner was indicative of one deeply in love.

The disappearance of the girl created a sensation all over the country. It was a deep, dark mystery. No trace of her whereabouts were found and Jim Wilcox cool, calm and indifferent and manifesting no interest in the affair was suspected.

At 12:45 court adjourned until 2:30 o'clock. The afternoon session of the court, was taken up with the cross-examination of Dr. Fearing, counsel for defense.

Ella Maude Cropsey was the pretty young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cropsey, Northern people who moved to this city in 1898 to engage in the production of vegetables for a New York Commission house.

The night of November the 20th 1901 young Wilcox again called at the Cropsey home. The girls noticed that his actions were peculiar. He would nervously fidget his watch and compare it with the time piece on the wall.

On Thursday, March 13th, 1902, 250 venire men were drawn from the box. Out of this number 12 men were selected to decide the fate of Wilcox. The great trial was on, and interest was at fever heat.

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That Nellie Cropsey was his preference went without saying. His very look displayed it and the many attentions he showed her affirmed it.

But Wilcox did not come at ten p. m. He waited until eleven and then, holding a cigarette in his mouth, he prepared to depart.

The organs of the body were found in normal condition of virginity. The stomach, lungs and pleura cavity had no water in them all of which in the opinion of Dr. Fearing indicated death other than by drowning.

Dr. J. E. Wood was the next witness called. He testified that he was well acquainted with Nellie Cropsey and that she was a very intelligent and accomplished young woman.

Dr. Fearing did, as to the declaring that there were no signs of drowning, his testimony was not given until after the jury had returned its verdict.

At the offices of the new company, corner Pender and Fearing streets, a meeting was held at noon Monday. At this meeting Messrs. P. H. Williams, L. B. and C. M. Blaney, C. M. Scott and City Councilman, comprising the directors of the old organization, underwent their resignations and same were accepted.

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NEW COMPANY IN CHARGE

Elizabeth City formally changed its name to the Standard Telephone and Telegraph Company.

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