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LAURA BIGGAR ACQUITTED

Dr. Hendrick and Justice Stanton Are Found Guilty.

JURY'S REMARKABLE VERDICT

It Declares That the Two Men Conspired to Get the Fortune of Henry M. Bennett, But That the Woman Did Not—We Did Right by Her," Say Jurors—Convicted Men Have for a New Trial.

Freshfield, N. J.—By an odd turn of New Jersey justice Laura Biggar, the actress, gained freedom and a fortune in the twinkling of an eye. Dr. C. C. Hendrick and former Justice of the Peace Samuel Stanton, who were accused with her of conspiring to fraudulently gain the entire estate of the late Henry M. Bennett, by swearing that she was married to the dead millionaire and that a posthumous child was born, were both declared guilty.

Members of the jury, when asked how they came to acquit Miss Biggar and yet declare the two men guilty, shrugged their shoulders and said: "That woman's entitled to all she'll get, and we're from the old man's estate. We did what was right by her, that's all."

Questioned further as to their process of reasoning the jurors refused to answer. They simply lifted their eyebrows, shrugged their shoulders and looked wise.

"The verdict will be a popular one in New Jersey," said one of the jurors. "Any verdict that gives a woman her just dues goes in New Jersey, and that's all there is to it."

Hendrick and Stanton will appeal their cases to the Supreme Court of New Jersey. They say there will be no difficulty in settling aside the verdict. Laura Biggar can never be tried again on the charge, and she says she will leave no stone unturned to help Hendrick and Stanton out of their trouble. By the verdict acquitting her the actress is left in this position:

She is the chief legatee under the will of old man Bennett and will get, it is estimated, about \$172,000, this being sixty per cent. of the available wealth of the old man after all debts are paid.

She will receive an annuity of \$1800 for five years before the estate is divided.

She will receive \$1000 from the estate immediately by a special provision of the will.

Hendrick and Stanton took the verdict, as did Miss Biggar, but a stir was caused by Mrs. Hendrick, who sobbed bitterly and fainted. She was carried to an anteroom, where she lay for some time, and was later taken to a hotel. Before entering a carriage Mrs. Hendrick asked permission to see her husband, and embraced him affectionately. Miss Biggar was greatly affected at the sight of the woman's grief, and did all she could to comfort her. In fact the former actress seemed more concerned at the fate of the other two defendants than she was pleased at her own release.

"The future is absolutely black for me," said Miss Biggar, before leaving the courtroom with her counsel. "I have no plans whatever, and probably will remain indefinitely in the hotel here where I am staying. In fact I have no other place to go and my life is hellish."

The jury, it is understood, was nine to three for the acquittal of the woman from the first ballot to the time it was decided to ask the court for instructions. Then, it is said, the obstinate three agreed to acquit her, providing the other two could be convicted. The judge so ruled, and thus the verdict was returned.

HEROES OF THE "POISON SQUAD."

A Yale Athlete Among the Government's Free Boarders.

Washington, D. C.—The names of Dr. Wiley's "poison squad" have at last been made public. "It is a roll of honor," declared Dr. Wiley, "and future generations will rise up and declare these men blessed when the true value of their services are known."

Included among the official boarders are B. J. Teasdale, once the famous 100-yard runner of Yale. The others are John D. Eldridge, known among his colleagues as the "fat man," and "Big John" E. B. Dudley, of North Carolina; the "fain private," Emory R. McCarthy, of Pennsylvania; J. S. Clifford, of New York; W. J. Jordan; J. L. Weber; F. Norton; T. E. Smith; C. Orton and Messrs. Freeman and Dubois.

ROBBERS AIDED BY POLICEMAN.

He is Convicted of Participating in Full Uniform in the Crime.

Chicago—Policeman Patrick Mahoney was found guilty and Daniel Curran, confederate, not guilty of burglary by a jury. Hagerman's jewelry store was robbed of goods worth \$70,000. James Clark and an accomplice were convicted of the crime and served terms in the penitentiary.

Upon his release Clark told a story to the State's Attorney which resulted in the arrest of Curran, a saloonkeeper, and Mahoney, a policeman, well known and respected among his fellows. Clark testified that Mahoney in full uniform stood guard while the jewelry store was being looted.

Cattle Dying Out West.

Thousands of cattle are starving on the range in Northwestern Colorado. It is impossible to get feed to them, and equally impossible to drive them into suitable winter quarters.

A KIND ACT REWARDED

Girl Bookkeeper Gets \$40,000 From Stranger She Befriended.

She Never Had Any Idea That the Plaintiff, Dressed as Elderly Man on a Train, Would Send Her Money.

Milwaukee, Wis.—For an act of kindness performed three years ago Miss Anna Marion Youkers, bookkeeper at the White Swan Laundry, in this city, has suddenly become rich. A draft for \$40,000 came to her a few days ago from Charles W. Johnson, of Chicago, whom the girl has seen only once in her life, when she took him for a poor man and was kind to him.

So little does Miss Youkers know of her benefactor that she does not know his business or family connections. She believes, however, that he is a retired merchant. She has received only three letters from him since the incident which resulted in the gift.

It was in July, 1900, while on a trip to Savannah, Ill., to visit the family of Charles Jensen, that Miss Youkers boarded a train at LaCrosse. When the train reached Stoddard, Wis., she noticed an elderly man, dressed plainly, about the size of the car. When he entered the door of the coach she saw that he carried, in addition to his grip, a can, and a glance at him told her that he was not well.

He appeared for a moment as though he was about to faint. Miss Youkers, who was only a few feet distant, ran to his side and offered assistance. She helped him to the double seat where she had been sitting, and placed his grip at his side, then she went to the other end of the car and brought him a glass of water and in many ways made him comfortable. After a time the man seemed to get stronger, and they talked.

The stranger said he was in ill health and was going to Chicago. He asked about her life and plans and took her name and address, and said he would write and tell her if he arrived in Chicago without mishap.

Six months later he wrote her a letter and two or three other letters passed between them. Shortly before the receipt of the gift, however, Miss Youkers received a postal card from him which conveyed the news that she might expect a surprise. She thought little of it, however, although wondering what it meant. When she received the draft she could hardly realize the truth of it.

HOME GIVEN TO MASONS.

W. L. Elkins Makes \$1,000,000 Gift For Their Orphan Daughters.

Philadelphia—As a Christmas gift to the Masonic fraternity William L. Elkins announced his intention to establish a home for the orphan daughters of Masons. The gift, which is expected to amount to \$1,000,000, is the largest ever made to any fraternal organization in the world, and the inspiration, which Mr. Elkins proposes to found and endow, will be without a counterpart anywhere.

Announcement of Mr. Elkins' plan was made at the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, North Broad street, by General Louis Wagner, a Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania. The occasion was the annual dinner to the residents of the home. General Wagner presided at the meeting, which was held in the chapel.

The plans provided for a Central Administration Building, three stories high, and dormitories to the north and south, connected by wings with the central building. The contractors will begin work by April 1, 1903.

A resolution was passed by the Board of Managers accepting Mr. Elkins' gift, and expressing a wish that he might soon recover from his illness.

FOUR BURNED TO DEATH.

Fire Kills Sleeping Children of Julius King at Piercefield, N. Y.

Malone, N. Y.—Four persons were burned to death in the house of Julius King, at Piercefield, a prominent pulp and paper manufacturing town in the Adirondacks a few miles south of Tupper Lake. The fire had gained such headway before it was discovered that Mrs. M. J. McGovern, King's oldest daughter, and her three children, who were sleeping on the lower floor, were not able to get out, and all were burned to death.

One of the children, whose body was found close to a window, evidently had made an effort to escape. King and his wife, with a few boarders on an upper floor, escaped by jumping out of the windows. It is not known how the fire started.

FARMER MURDERED AT NIGHT.

Stranger in His Cellar Shot Him and Flew, Leaving No Clue.

Lanester, Pa.—Christian C. Banck, aged twenty-five years, a farmer, residing with his father, Benjamin Banck, near Paradise, this county, was murdered. As he was returning from the henhouse to the house he noticed the cellar door of the house was open. He stooped to close it, and as he did so saw a man in the cellar.

Without a word the stranger shot him in the abdomen with a revolver and then fled. Banck fell, but, recovering himself, staggered into the house, where his aged mother lay dying from apoplexy. Two hours later he died.

Gale Sweeps British Coasts.

A severe gale swept the north coasts of the United Kingdom, and caused considerable damage to shipping and water-front property on the Clyde and the Tyne.

ACCEPT HAGUE TRIBUNAL

President Roosevelt Not to Arbitrate the Venezuelan Controversy.

WE WILL NOT GUARANTEE AWARD

The Preliminary Protocol Will Raise the Blockade and Restore the Captured Vessels to Castro, and the Modus Vivendi Will Then Be Arranged—The Cabinet Decides to Thank the Powers.

Washington, D. C.—By agreement of all the parties interested the Venezuelan controversy is to be submitted to The Hague tribunal for settlement. Thus President Roosevelt has escaped the certainly thankless and possibly embarrassing task of arbitrator.

While the agreement of the allied Powers and of Venezuela to have the matter go to The Hague court is practically final, it is understood that Germany, at least, demands a small preliminary payment from Venezuela, and that before arbitration shall begin the blockade shall be raised and the Venezuelan submarines restored to her. If these conditions shall be insisted upon there is little doubt that they will be met, and that speedy and final arbitration will ensue.

The principal difficulty that had to be overcome by this Government in inducing the allied Powers to submit the matter to The Hague court instead of to President Roosevelt was due to the insistent intimation by the allies that if they should accept arbitration at our request we ought to guarantee that the Venezuelan Government should meet her obligations according to the decision of The Hague court. This the United States has steadily declined to do, though it has offered to use its good offices as far as possible to induce Venezuela to meet the award. In the end this Government has carried its point, and it will have the satisfaction of seeing the matter arbitrated at The Hague without standing as bondsman or guarantor for the South American Republic.

Secretary Hay received messages from Great Britain, Germany and Italy saying that they would accept the arbitration of The Hague court if an agreement could be reached with Venezuela regarding the preliminaries. "There is little doubt that this can be done," Venezuela will have to make some sort of apology to Germany for the insult to the German Legation, and will have to make a small money payment, and then the captured Venezuelan ships will be restored and the blockade will be raised. This will be agreed upon in a preliminary protocol. When it shall have been carried into effect, a second protocol containing the terms and conditions of arbitration, and a modus vivendi to last until after the arbitration is over and the award settled, will be signed by representatives of all the Powers concerned. This further settlement is assured as the result of the recent making of terms of this Government.

The State Department takes the ground that the details of the agreement must be made public, if at all, by the Powers concerned, and it could not publish them without discountenancing the matter save as a channel of communication. But it is intimated that care has been taken to prevent the inclusion of the Monroe doctrine in the matters to be arbitrated. This Government is unwilling to have this famous American policy judged, even incidentally, by a court largely composed of representatives of non-American powers, and it is satisfied that in the arbitration The Hague court will have no opportunity to question or render an opinion regarding that doctrine.

In their notes, which were laid before the Cabinet meeting by Secretary Hay, the allied Powers are understood to have repeated that they would rather have President Roosevelt act as arbitrator, but that they were unwilling to accept the arbitration of The Hague court if he were disinclined to accept. Secretary Hay is pronouncing a note expressing the gratification of this Government over the fact that the matter will go to The Hague.

GRAVE-ROBBERS' PLOT.

It is Said They Intended to Steal General Harrison's Body.

Indianapolis, Ind.—There has been a story afloat here that the grave-robbers now under arrest were in conspiracy to steal former President Harrison's body the night after he was buried. The object was to hold the body for a reward.

General Harrison left a request that his grave be scolded beyond the possibility of desecration. He had in mind the stealing of his own father's body, which he afterward found in a Cincinnati medical college. His grave was covered with a stone slab of at least a ton weight.

SAVAGES KILL ATKINSON.

A British Sea Captain Sacrificed to Supply Station.

Victoria, B. C.—Captain Henry Anson Atkinson, of the British recruiting schooner Lily, was killed by natives of Mallicolo Island, in the New Hebrides. The schooner was taking home natives, who had been employed in New Caledonia by French planters. One bound to Mallicolo died when near there, and Captain Atkinson decided to bury the body ashore. When he landed he was killed, and two of his crew were wounded.

The superstitious natives believed they must kill the whites to prevent further deaths.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

Internal revenue collections for November were \$19,285,257, a decrease from the previous year of \$3,293,593.

The Government accepted the thirty-knot torpedo boat Wilkes built in New York City.

President Roosevelt received the delegates attending the biennial convention of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, in session at Washington.

It was announced at the War Department that General Chaffee will become Lieutenant-General of the Army when General Young retires.

The funeral of Mrs. U. S. Grant took place in Washington, attended by the President and a large number of officials.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

The reception of Admiral Deyce on his arrival at San Juan, P. R., was a tremendous success. The parade which he led with the naval officers was an imposing spectacle. There was an immense crowd of spectators. The Government gave a ball in honor of the Admiral.

It is stated that the provinces of Cavite, Batangas and Tarabas in the Philippines will be placed under military control because of the difficulties of the Civil Government with the Indians.

Natives of the Island of Panay, P. I., have raised funds to send to Boston to aid in the prosecution of the case of Father Augustin, killed by the water cure.

DOMESTIC.

The torpedo boat destroyer Worden, now at Norfolk Navy Yard, was ordered in commission.

Robbers relieved the State Bank at Webber, Kan., of \$1500 cash and escaped.

General Greene, the new Police Commissioner of New York City, has retained the present deputies.

While seeking food or shelter Joseph Hariton, an aged prospector, perished in the storm near Isle, Cal.

While playing Santa Claus, Forest Gale, a fifteen-year-old boy, was fatally burned in the Salvation Army barracks at Hamilton, O.

Having forced Ed Gay, of Matthews, Ga., to force him to his safe an unknown man killed him and took \$1200 in cash with which he escaped, leaving no clue.

Daniel C. Mayallian, former captain of police, was acquitted at New York City by a jury of a charge of accepting bribes.

While Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Williams were dining at the Westminster Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal., thieves took \$2000 worth of jewelry from their room.

James Kibbe, aged 102 years, and supposed to have been the oldest resident of Illinois, died at Danville, Ill.

Two hundred passengers, an entire trainload, were injured in a wreck in Illinois. None were killed.

Nate Salisbury, controlling partner in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, died at Long Branch, N. J.

Charged with embezzling \$10,100 as receiver of the Lion Model Laundry Company, C. L. Shway was arrested at Cleveland, Ohio.

Fire Chief Croker was officially declared out of the New York Fire Department and Charles D. Purroy installed in the office.

The body of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant was laid in a sarcophagus beside that of her husband in the tomb at Riverside Park, New York City.

Four masked men who attempted to dynamite the safe in the bank at White River, Ind., were scolded away before accomplishing their purpose.

The Congressional seat held by J. J. Butler, Twelfth Missouri District, will be contested by George D. Reynolds.

At a dinner of bankers in Chicago Secretary Shaw made a speech advocating a credit currency, protected by a tax on the circulation issued by banks.

ENGLAND'S PRIMATE DEAD

Archbishop of Canterbury Had Been Ill for Some Time.

His Collapse at King Edward's Coronation a Warning of His End—Chief Events of His Life.

London—The Most Rev. Frederick Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England, who had been ill for some time past, is dead. The Archbishop passed away peacefully in the presence of his wife and two sons. His death was expected for some days.

The Primate died of old age. The pathetic scene in Westminster Abbey at the coronation of King Edward was one of the earlier indications of his falling strength. Then came the col-



ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

lapse in the House of Lords at the end of a vigorous speech in support of the Education bill. He had not left his bed since. He will be buried at Canterbury. The Bishop of Winchester is considered likely to be his successor.

The Most Rev. and Right Honorable Frederick Temple was born in 1821. He was educated in the grammar school at Tipton and at Balliol College, Oxford, taking his degree of B. A. in 1842. In 1849 Mr. Gladstone nominated him to be Bishop of Exeter, a position to which he was elected despite opposition. In 1885 he was appointed Bishop of London and in 1896 was made Primate of all England.

In 1876 Dr. Temple married Beatrice Innesell. He had two sons, Frederick Charles, twenty-three years old, and William, twenty-one years old.

The Archbishop in 1890 published the first of the seven "Essays and Discourses" which caused much comment. In 1861 he published "Sermons Preached in Ripley Chapel, 1856-60."

Earthquake Disaster Grows.

Fears That Site of Andijan, Russian Turkestan, May subside.

Ashkabad, Russian Turkestan.—The worst of the earlier reports of the recent earthquake disaster at Andijan underestimated the loss of life. A telegram from the scene of the catastrophe puts the number of victims in the native quarter of the town at 4000.

The State Treasury, containing 5,000,000 rubles, is in the ruins, and excavations to get the money are carried on under the supervision of a strong corps of police. The water in the wells has disappeared and a general subsidence of the site of the town is feared.

The shocks continue with increasing violence. The Russian population, is camped at the railroad station, where 500 cars are piled at the disposal of the populace. The local government officials are quartered in cars. Sheds for the destitute are being built. Free soup kitchens have been started, and officials are aiding the departure of the inhabitants by distributing food, money and free railroad tickets.

HOME-COMING BROTHER SHOT.

He Was Taken For a Burglar and Killed by His Brothers.

Brantford, Ont.—Wesley Watson, of Detroit, was shot and instantly killed by his brother Samuel at Middleport, about twelve miles from this city. Samuel and James Watson ran the farm near Middleport, and the third brother, Wesley, lived in Detroit. The latter came home unexpectedly at night. It is supposed to spend the Christmas holidays. His brothers, both men over thirty years old, heard him approaching the house. They were recently attacked by burglars, and feared that they were about to repeat the experience.

They ran up stairs, and, getting out of a window, went to the house of a neighbor, where they spent the night. They returned in the morning armed with a shotgun. Wesley had gone into the house and found no one there, went to bed. When his brothers opened the door he raised himself in the bed. They aimed the shotgun, and the contents lodged in Wesley's face, killing him instantly.

ATTEMPT TO WRECK CATHEDRAL.

Scrap-Iron Bomb Exploded at Entrance of St. Peter's, Geneva.

Geneva, Switzerland.—A dynamite bomb was exploded at the entrance of St. Peter's Cathedral. The doorway was damaged, but not seriously. The outrage is supposed to have been perpetrated by an Anarchist.

The bomb was filled with scrap-iron. The clumsy manner in which the bomb was placed saved the Cathedral from serious damage. Windows of neighboring houses were shattered, and an inmate of an adjacent house was thrown out of bed.

NORTH STATE MATTERS

Newsy Items Gleaned From Murphy to Montco.

Governor Aycock Saturday gave the following pardons and the rest thereof: M. A. Fogleman, of Alamance county, larceny, six months; the public roads, Dock Higgins, Mitchell county, manslaughter, set years in penitentiary; Spencer Adair of Rowan county, assault with intent to kill, 15 months on the county road; Arthur McDowell, of Cherokee county highway robbery, 10 years in the penitentiary; John Swenney, of Swain county, burglary in the second degree, five years on the county roads; James Jackson, Swain county, burglary in the second degree, five years on the county roads; Ed. Daly, of Wayne county, drunk and disorderly, thirty days on the county roads; G. N. Toadler, Wilkes county, attempt at rape, five years in the penitentiary; Zack Price of Asson county, assault with deadly weapon.

The Oak Hill and Henry Johns copper mines have just been sold. The former property has a vein seven 7/8 wide, containing chalcoprytes, born and covellite, with an average of 30 per cent. The latter has only quartzite been opened and is more than 30 feet deep, showing a four-foot vein. Both have an abundance of water. The Oak Hill borders the Southern Railway and the Henry Johns tract is cut two by the same road. The Old Home mine, in Waxhaw, Union county, N. C., is receiving a new outfit for a 100-ft cyanide plant. The owner has also made \$2,000,000 out of another free acid mine by the application of the cyanide process, for which the North Carolina quartz, holding free gold, is admirably suited.

The pension warrants for Ired county have been received by Reginald D. Williams and a number of them have already been distributed. The total number of pensions is 1118 of which are soldiers, one of which is first class, 3 second class, 9 3/4 class and 105 fourth class. All of a widow's pensions, 74 in number, are the fourth class.

Mr. Ed. Lashmitt and a man named Hatcher of Winston-Salem, were grazing a tree on the farm of Dr. W. Thompson Friday morning. Mr. Hatcher accidentally struck Lashmitt with a mallet on the back of the head, inflicting a serious wound. The two men are good friends and no one seems to regret the accident more than Mr. Hatcher.

James Thomas, colored, was arrested at Wilmington upon the arrival of the Carolina Central train Friday on a telegram from Clarkston, charging that he stole a large amount of money from a citizen's store. When searched by the police station, he had \$225 and a razor on his person. The negro was returned to Clarkston.

The board of aldermen of Wilmington have granted licenses to 67 licensees to continue business after January 1st, when the present licenses expire. The number of licenses in Wilmington exceeds that of any city in the State and is said to be the largest according to population of any city in the South.

It is decided to change the date of the summer normal school at the Agricultural and Mechanical College Raleigh, so that instead of beginning June 15th it will begin July 1st. It will continue all that month. Thus it will not conflict with the summer school of the State University.

Senator Pritchard's health is again assuming a serious turn. Tuesday underwent an operation, and Washington dispatches say that he will close all official business, under advice of physicians, and enter a local hospital for treatment for a week or ten days.

A young man in Asheville named E. Northern, who owns a candy and souvenir store on Patton avenue, suddenly fallen heir to \$60,000. It was bequeathed to him, says the Gazette by a rich uncle, P. E. Northern, who recently died at Marion, Ark.

An unsuccessful attempt was made one night last week to burn the W. Knitting Mill. A pile of dry wood, the engine room was saturated with oil and set on fire.

Saturday warrants were sent out each of the companies and naval divisions in the State Guard for the year allowance, \$250, and for \$100 to each of the regimental and naval brig headquarters.

A charter is granted to the Ayrd Bros. Company, of Elizabeth City, which will do a general merchant business, wholesale and retail, capital \$51,200.

Greensboro reports many accidents Christmas day.

The roof is being put on the Putnam memorial building at the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh.

A freight train was wrecked below Mooresville Saturday afternoon. Several cars were derailed but no one was hurt.

Willed to Charity.

Louisville, Special.—The will of Robert C. Whayne, the heavily-insured business man who was found dead Wednesday, was probated. The testator named his wife as executrix, trustee, but she declined to serve, and the Fidelity Trust Company was appointed at her request. The will left the bulk of his estate to his wife and children and set aside \$40,000 for local charities.