

THE SLOW POISONING CASE. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION Before the Stipendiary Magistrate. Mrs. Sutherland's Evidence.

The preliminary enquiry into the charge preferred against Mrs. Robert T. Weeks was resumed this morning at the residence of James M. Sutherland, Esq., Upper Prince Street, where the evidence of Mrs. Sutherland was taken. The court met in the large dining room, where Mr. Sutherland did all in his power to make everyone comfortable and to facilitate the work in hand. Mrs. Sutherland's general health appears to be fairly good. Everything considered, she is brighter and stronger than might have been expected; but her face looks thin and worn. Mrs. Weeks looked pale and ill. She was attended by her brother, Mr. Frank P. McLeod. Mrs. Sutherland occupied an easy chair in the south-eastern portion of the room. To her right sat Dr. Johnson and at her left Dr. Taylor. Mrs. Weeks occupied another easy chair at the south-western corner of the room at the left of her brother. His Honor the Stipendiary Magistrate and his clerk Mr. Hedley V. Palmer, Attorney General McLeod, and Mr. Malcolm McLeod, Q. C., counsel for the Crown, Mr. Fred. Peters, representing Mrs. Weeks and Mr. E. J. Hodgson, Q. C., who is watching the case for Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, together with the press reporters, occupied seats around a large table in the centre of the room. Mr. Sutherland was also present during the proceedings. Below is a summary report of Mrs. Sutherland's evidence:—

MRS. JAMES M. SUTHERLAND (SWORN). Examined by the Attorney-General—I have one servant in the house—Bella Stewart. She came about the 9th or 10th November. I had no servant for a month before. Besides the family, there are in the house Mrs. Sutherland (my mother-in-law) and Miss Eliza Cousins. Mrs. Sutherland came on December 25th, and Miss Cousins on the 11th January,—she is still with me. Kate McCormack was my previous servant. She left about the 10th October last. She came about the last of September. I think she is at Cardigan now. Mrs. Larkins was a servant in the house previous to Kate McCormack. There was a fortnight between the time she left and the time that Kate McCormack came. Mrs. Larkins was here four months I don't know where she is now, but think she is at home at Kensington. The servant man—William Brown—does not live in the house. He takes his meals here, though. Mary Stewart (sister of my servant) is also here. She has been here about three weeks. She is staying here till she gets a place. She came from the Morell House here. I don't know how long she was there, or where she lived prior to that. She was formerly a servant with Mrs. Weeks. It is over a year since she left there. I don't remember what servant I had before Mrs. Larkins came. I had a girl named Annie Waye last winter. She belonged about Freetown. She was here two or three months. Mary Stewart was a servant with Mrs. Weeks a year, or nearly a year. She is a sister of Bella Stewart, my servant. Mary visited Bella once or twice while she was at the Morell House. When she was in the house I heard of it. I have been very ill. I think Christmas day's attack was the worst I had. I was not very well all the night previous—being very feverish. I felt very thirsty and drank a good deal of water that night. I kept getting worse as the day went on. I was up the day before Christmas; but was not very well. I had to lie down most of the time, still I kept down stairs. Dr. Johnson called on me on the afternoon of the day before Christmas. I saw him in the front room. I walked in to see him. It was during my sleep that the fever began. I went to bed about twelve that night. I was busy with the children making ready for Christmas. Mrs. Sutherland was here that evening. Mrs. D. McKay and Mrs. Harry Worth called in to see me. My daughters Marion and Ella, who were out that evening came home about nine. They did not go to bed till I did. They were out shopping. They went some time after seven. They sent home some confectionery from J. D. McLeod's, but nothing for myself. I don't remember who received the confectionery or the other parcels which came. The servant girl was not home. I don't remember the parcels coming in. They might have been deposited on the table in the kitchen. This has often been done. I don't remember that the parcels came in through the front way. Mrs. Sutherland and myself were the only two in the house that night. The back door was left open until the girl came home. I think she came home about 10 o'clock. I don't remember what time Brown left that evening. He generally leaves about eight o'clock. I think the servant girl went to bed shortly after coming in, as she was not assisting me. I remember her coming home that night, and showing me a pair of slippers which had been presented to her. She did not tell me who gave them to her. Mr. Sutherland was in town that night, but was not at home. He went out about 7.30 or 8 o'clock. He was home to tea. He had not got home by the time I went to bed. I locked all the doors before I went to bed. Mr. Sutherland had a latch-key. My mother-in-law and I went upstairs at the same time. I don't remember what time Mr. Sutherland got in that night nor what time I fell asleep. I took something to eat before retiring. I drank a glass of milk, but don't remember what I ate with it. I afterwards took my medicine—maltine and milk. I don't remember who got the first glass of milk for me. I took it down stairs. I did not get it myself. I also took the medicine down stairs. I mixed it myself. The milk was got in the pantry either by Mrs. Sutherland or one of my daughters. The tumbler was partly full. I did not see them getting it. The maltine bottle was kept in the book-case in the dining room, where I was then sitting. I had taken one or two doses before from the same bottle. I was not taking the whiskey in the maltine and milk then. The maltine was ordered by the doctor, and came from A. S. Johnson's drugstore. It was sent down, but I do not know who brought it. I went upstairs to bed about half an hour

after I took the medicine. My daughter Ella slept with me that night. I think I slept very well that night. I woke up during the night, but do not exactly remember when. I do not think I took anything during the night. Ella did not wake up. I think it was about 7 or 8 o'clock in the morning when I awoke. I was feverish when I awoke. I did not get up then. I expect I took the maltine and milk that morning, but do not remember. I got very ill shortly after dinner. I ate no dinner on that day. I had a drink of tea that morning. It was brought me by my daughter Ella. We had dinner about one o'clock on that day. I got worse in the afternoon. I was feverish, and had a good deal of diarrhoea. I vomited that day. I do not remember about the pains. I was very thirsty all day and drank a good deal of water. I could generally keep the water on my stomach. There were no outsiders in the house that morning. Mrs. Sutherland and my daughter Ella, attended me up stairs. The servant girl was not attending me. She attends to the room. It is likely she was up that morning, but I cannot remember. My sister, Maggie Henderson, came up to see me in the afternoon, and I asked her to call and tell Dr. Johnson to come up. The doctor came up shortly afterwards. He bathed my head and hands in cold water, as I was very feverish, and I think he said I could take whiskey in the maltine and milk. He afterwards sent up some medicine to be taken at once. I took the whiskey, maltine and milk a couple of hours after taking the medicine he sent up. I do not remember who brought up the maltine. I got the bottle of whiskey the day before, when I was up. It was sent to me on the 24th December by the man-servant William Brown, who brought it into the house. I sent my daughter Ella for the whiskey after 4 o'clock and it came right home. It arrived before dark. Brown brought it home and I think he laid it on the kitchen table with some other parcels. The girl afterwards put it in the pantry. I was up that day. I did not see the whiskey on the table or in the pantry. I did not see the whiskey until it was brought up by my daughter about 7.30 that evening. It was not a sealed bottle. The bottle was black and rather lower than the ordinary whiskey bottle. I did not often see whiskey in that kind of bottle. I took a little whiskey mixed with water and sugar that time. This was about 7 o'clock on the night of the 24th. I was in the bedroom at the time. The sugar and water were brought up by my daughter, Ella. The bottle remained upstairs on the table in my bedroom and afterwards on the floor near my bed. The bottle was finished on the 2nd January. I was using it during this interval. I took some of the whiskey out of the bottle in my maltine and milk on the 24th; and daily afterwards three or four times a day in the maltine and milk. The doctor called again about 10 that night. I thought I was about the same, perhaps a little easier. I think I had taken the second dose of the mixture ordered by the doctor by this time. He mixed some whiskey, maltine and milk for me and I drank it. It was no sooner down than it was up again. I vomited two large white curds on this occasion. The maltine, milk and whiskey were all in the room when the doctor came. We were taking our milk from the milkman—Mr. Pembroke. The milkman calls once a day, about ten, and twice on Saturdays, about 10 and 7. He delivers the milk in the kitchen. The girl, Miss Stewart, takes charge of it. Brown has nothing to do with it. I do not know who supplies Mrs. Weeks with milk. The milk that the doctor mixed with the whiskey and maltine came at 10 in the morning. The milk is kept in a basin in the pantry. The pantry is not always locked. The girl has access to it in the day time. I was fairly well on Xmas night after taking the doctor's powder. At that time I suffered from pains in the soles of my feet, and there was a feeling of numbness in my hands. My eyes were not very well then, they had been very sore before that. They were very itchy and I could not stand the light. I was weeping a good deal, and was also running at the nose. The pains in my feet got worse after that. They had a feeling of being drawn up. The hands were not so sore as the feet. They were numb and had a prickly sensation inside the skin. I tried to baton my clothes and found I could not. I noticed that my skin was turning brown and was getting rough. At times I had pains in the bowels. I was not very ill in September. About the 1st Oct. I commenced to notice a strange feeling in my feet. I was weak then. I vomited up a worm about a week after the 10th. One day in October—I do not remember the date—I was vomiting all the day before, and was too ill to get up in the morning. I got up about 4 o'clock, vomited, and had to go to bed again. I do not remember that I had diarrhoea pains that night. I do not remember that I had fever then. I had been drinking warm water to make me vomit. I had vomited before taking the warm water, and thought there was more to come up. I had some peculiar sensation in the feet before that time. There was a prickly sensation, as if they had been asleep. I do not remember how my eyes were then. The day I vomited the worm I sent right away for the doctor. He treated me and I got better. I was ill then off and on, vomiting sometimes. I was three or four days before I got up. This was in October. The doctor attended me regularly for three or four days. I was last out on the 18th September, when I went to see the doctor. I was not feeling well. My eyes were sore, and I had been vomiting. My eyes and nose were running all the way home from the doctor's. On the 13th December, when the doctor called, I remember that my eyes were very sore. I do not remember of vomiting that day. I vomited so much that I do not exactly remember when I did it. Later, on the doctor asked me about the manner in which my cooking was done. The doctor called on me regularly up to the 22nd Dec. I did not get up till the 22nd Dec. at the advice of the doctor. I got up on that day. I had improved under his treatment. I walked down stairs on that day. I was also up on the two following days. I asked for another bottle of whiskey on the 2nd January when the first was finished. It was brought up to my room by the servant girl. It was brought up some time on the evening of the 2nd January. It was a white whiskey bottle. This is the same bottle that the sediment was in. There was a paper wrapped around it. It was taken off next morning by Dr. Johnson. I used the whiskey once—the evening it came.

The doctor took off the wrapper on the morning of the 3rd, as he was mixing my maltine, whiskey and milk. He then gave me a dose out of the bottle, which I drank. I had another dose from the same bottle on the same evening. This was on the 3rd of January. On the 4th the doctor called again, and I then asked him to look at the bottle. He did so and saw something white in the bottom of it. When the doctor took the paper off this bottle the previous day and was pouring the whiskey out of it I noticed something white around the bottom of the bottle inside. I did not speak of it at that time. On the afternoon of the 4th I told the doctor of my having noticed the sediment, and asked him to look at it. He said he would like to have it examined by his son Arthur to see what was in it. He asked me to send the bottle down to him. I got the bottle, poured some of the whiskey into another bottle, and sent the bottle with the sediment in it to the doctor. The bottle was about quarter full when I sent it down. I corked the bottle, wrapped it in paper and sent it down by my daughter Marion. She was instructed to give it to the doctor or to A. S. Johnson. I was to take the whiskey every four hours. I took none of this bottle after the evening of the 3rd January. I did not take it as I noticed that when I mixed it with milk and maltine the milk was curdled. I did not care to drink it in that way as I saw the sediment, and thought there might be something wrong. I got another bottle up next day—4th January—in the afternoon, and used it once only—that was before the doctor came. One of my daughters I think brought it up from the pantry. It was the same kind of a bottle as the other, and the same brand. The case of whiskey in which they were was brought home on the evening of the 2nd Jan., by Mr. Sutherland. The doctor advised me not to take any more whiskey till he ordered it again. He took the second bottle away some days afterwards. In the meantime it remained in my room. There was no sediment in it. I did not see any. Some time after Dr. Johnson told me that there was arsenic in the other bottle. I think it was after Dr. Johnson consulted with Dr. Taylor. I asked Dr. Johnson if he would like to consult with another doctor. Dr. Taylor came in the next day. Dr. Johnson obtained samples of discharges some time in October, and also in December; and when he came to see me he asked me concerning my health, tongue, discharges, etc. He asked me about the urine every time he came. He asked me if the discharges were very offensive, and applied pressure to the abdomen to see if there was pain. I do not remember whether there was pain upon pressure. I was too sick. He examined my tongue every day he called, and remarked that it was coated. After he took the bottle away, he asked me if we had any utensils of lead. I don't remember that he enquired before that. I was not on good terms with Mrs. Weeks. I have not spoken to Mrs. Weeks for over a year. She has been living near here about two years last November. We were friendly at one time and associated. She used to visit me and has driven out with me. I did not order the visits to stop—I did not stop her. She has not been visiting here for more than a year. I left off visiting her, and she did not come back. She used at one time to send me cake of different kinds—one time she sent soup—only once; also ale. The last thing she sent over was some chow-chow. I sent it back. That was over a year ago. I drank part of the soup. Christina Sutherland, sister of Mr. Sutherland, drank part of it. Sinclair, my son, also had some. My husband was not at home. I felt no effects that day; but sometime after I had diarrhoea. It might have been a day or two afterwards or it might have been the next day. There was no vomiting. I don't think that Christina Sutherland was ill in that way—it was the opposite with her,—whether from that cause I do not know. I never heard that it had any effect upon the boy. Wm. Brown, our servant, used to go messages for Mrs. Weeks and work around the place. I never told him not to do it. He continued doing so until she went away last winter, and for some time after she came back. She went away about the 16th January, 1889, and came back in June, I think. Mrs. Weeks sometimes had the use of Mr. Sutherland's horse and wagon previous to her going away. Since she came back in June, I do not think Brown went messages for her at the first; but he did afterwards. I remember when Mr. Davies had his garden party. I was invited. It was in September, 1889. I was present with Mrs. Laird. We obtained a horse and carriage from Robin's Livery Stable. I hired the team to drive us down and back. I told the boy to call for me at 6.30 o'clock in the evening; but he did not come back. I believe Mrs. Weeks interfered to prevent the team from coming. Mrs. Weeks had, I believe, a girl living with her by the name of Gillespie. I didn't see Mary Stewart coming to my house very much. The Gillespie girl was there, I think, after Mary Stewart. I do not know the girl who was there last. Mrs. Weeks used to drive with my husband. I do not know when I saw them driving. I think that my husband went to see her after I ceased to do so. Since Mrs. Weeks' return from Moncton last year, my husband has been visiting there. This may have caused a little unpleasantness between me and Mrs. Weeks—it was part of the cause. Brown is sober when he cannot get anything to drink. To Mr. Peters—Brown has been in our employ over five years. He is an old soldier—a married man. He lives with his wife and family in a house that he rents himself. Court took recess.

the whiskey, I sent my daughter down to remind him. She went down and spoke to him at the door. I heard him come back in the sleigh. He was away about half an hour. He came into the house by the back door—so far as I know. If he had come in by the front door I could have heard him. After he came in I heard him hammering down stairs. I did not know then that he had brought in a case of whiskey. The children were all down stairs. I heard Mr. Sutherland come from the pantry into the dining-room, and also heard him asking if there were glasses upstairs. I answered him from my room that there was fresh water but no glasses. Mr. Sutherland asked one of the children, Sinclair, I think—to bring up some glasses. Then he came straight up stairs. He had a bottle in his hand with the paper on it—apparently just as it was taken out of the case. As he was coming into the door he was just taking the tin-foil off the top of the bottle. So far as I could see, it was a new bottle of whiskey just being opened for the first time. There was a light in the room at the time. Any one could see what was taking place. He took a cork-screw and drew the cork out. I saw him do this. I thought it was the first time that the bottle had ever been drawn. I am satisfied on that point. The cork came out with a "pop" as if it were a newly opened bottle. His mother, Mrs. Sutherland, and my son Sinclair, were in the room at the time. No one else was there. Having drained the bottle, he asked his mother if she would have some. She said she would. He poured her out an ordinary glass and she took it neat. Mr. Sutherland himself took some. He took his neat, too. I didn't take any just then, for I had to take it afterwards in my medicine. I do not see how anyone could put anything into the bottle at this time. I could see all that was done.

[CONTINUED ON MONDAY.]

The New York Tribune first states that Canada's estimates call for the raising of \$47,000,000 and then adds that the provincial expenditure brings the amount to \$80,000,000, thus ascribing to the provinces a taxation of \$33,000,000. Apart from the exaggeration of these figures, the Tribune makes a very singular display of ignorance of our system. A large portion of the provincial receipts consist of subsidies from the Canadian treasury, and are not raised again by taxation, so to count them twice is a serious blunder. We have nothing like the system of our neighbors of direct taxes for the several states in addition to the taxation of the central government. No doubt our commercial and political unionists who are advocating direct taxation to raise the Dominion revenue would be glad to imitate their foreign friends and levy direct taxes for the provinces, but they are not in power and can never obtain it with their present anti-Canadian policy.

A telegram from Point DuChene, published in another column, shows that the people of that place are moving in respect to means of communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland. We are particularly glad to notice that people are waking up to the fact that this is not merely an "Island matter,"—that it is one which concerns materially the Maritime Provinces and the whole of Canada. The Moncton Times remarks:

THE REASON WHY every lover of good Coffee goes to Sanderson & Co. for their supply, is because they always get it the same—always good.

AUCTION SALES.

OUR ENGAGEMENTS for the Month of March are as follows:—
Monday, March 3rd—Apples, etc., at Salesroom.
Wednesday, March 5th—Mortgage Sale at Law Courts.
Monday, March 10th—Apples, Fish and Flour at Salesroom.
Wednesday, March 12th—Warehouse Trade Sale.
Saturday, March 15th—Holland Cove Farm and Stock of Mr. T. A. McLeslie.
Tuesday, March 18th—Mortgage Sale at Law Courts, and also extensive Furniture Sale.
Thursday, March 20th—Farm Stock for Alex. McKay at New London.
Monday, March 24th—"Eldon House" and Furniture on Kent Street.
Other parties requiring our services during the month will please apply early to secure suitable dates for sales.
Mortgage Sales do not interfere with other business.
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TO LET, in St. John's, Newfoundland, a BREWERY, with or without land adjoining. The said land has a river frontage of 800 feet. The Brewery may be used for other manufacturing purposes, as the water-power is capable of driving any machinery. For further particulars apply to
JAMES J. McGRATH,
376 Water Street,
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The subscriber would like to correspond with a practical Tanner, who has a small capital to invest. Address as above.
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LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION.

A CONVENTION OF DELEGATES from Georgetown, Cardigan and Murray Harbor Districts will be held in the Town Hall, Georgetown, on TUESDAY, March 11th, at 1 o'clock, p. m., to select a candidate to contest the seat rendered vacant in the Legislative Council by the resignation of James Clow, Esq. A full attendance is requested.
D. GORDON, President.
C. HAW, Secretary.
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FOR SALE.

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Before Stock-Taking we will give Special Cash Bargains in Parlor Sets, Bedroom Sets and other Furniture. As we are having quite a rush, and these Special Bargains are for the month of March only, intending purchasers will do well to call at once.

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Charlottetown, March 1, 1890—dy 2aw wky

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