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AN IAGO'S SUBTLE BRAIN.

The Concealed Hand That Moved the Puppets in the Howell-Colvin Imbroglio.

Perrie Maxwell Arrested on the Charge of Being an Accessory to the Shooting.

DID HE ARRANGE FOR A MURDER?

The District Attorney of Alameda Orders Him Into Custody — Maxwell and Howell Has Interviews Frequently, and Maxwell Negotiated the Meeting of Monday Night—Two of the Letters Received by Miss Annie Howell Made Public—Colvin's Brother Says the Most He Deserved Was a Kicking or a Pair of Black Eyes—Love for the Lady Damaged Colvin's Mind.

The sensation of the day in Oakland was the arrest of Perrie Maxwell as an accessory to the shooting of H. S. Colvin by J. G. Howell. He was taken into custody at 12 o'clock noon at the office, 821 Montgomery street, in this city, by Detective Holland and conveyed across the bay, where he was placed in jail.

Perrie Maxwell.

The theory of the prosecution is that Maxwell and Howell deliberately planned to murder Colvin, and that Maxwell induced Colvin to go with Howell to the office in the Wilcox Block, where the shooting was done.

Pending the result of Colvin's wounds no complaint will be filed against Maxwell unless he attempts to regain his freedom by means of a writ of habeas corpus, in which event George W. Reed, the District Attorney, will take measures to hold him in custody.

THE STORY MAXWELL TELLS.

Late on Tuesday night Maxwell made his appearance in Oakland and gave the following explanation of his connection with the shooting:

"I met Colvin Monday afternoon and we had a drink or two. We took a little walk and met Howell on the street and then we all went to the office together.

"In the hall I spoke to Colvin and told him that he had better get right down to business and not discuss my private affairs. I did not say not to tell Howell that I had written to his daughter. I went into the room with them and Colvin asked me to sit down, which I refused to do.

"I had only been in the room three or four minutes when the shooting began. There were some harsh words before the shooting. Howell spoke sharply first about the affair with his daughter. There was an interchange of harsh language and then Howell drew his gun. I saw that Howell drew his gun, but I was in the room while all the shooting was going on. I then walked out in the hall and met several people there. Some of them spoke to me, but I went down stairs and walked down to the corner of Seventh street and Broadway, where I met Howell. We walked down to the 11:30 train, which I took to San Francisco.

"I did not go back to the room, as I was rattled. I am a friend of both parties.

COMMUNICATION WITH MISS HOWELL.

"I knew Miss Howell as a girl, and we used to correspond. Our two families have been socially friendly. There was nothing in it. I had no correspondence with Miss Howell over had with me of a compromising nature. Colvin's statement is not true, and he has no letters of mine.

"I do not believe that my wife has turned over any letters of mine to Colvin. She is not jealous, and has no reason to be. The correspondence between Miss Howell and myself was friendly, and I believe they are now. Miss Howell never kept company with Colvin, and Colvin always told me that he was never engaged to her. As for the meeting last night, it was understood between the two that they should meet and have a final talk concerning the correspondence, and that was all that I knew about it.

"I have been acquainted with Howell about twenty-five years. I spent a part of my early boyhood in Healdsburg when the Howells lived there. I knew that Howell conducted poker rooms on the southeast corner of Market and Kearny streets some years ago.

COLVIN'S ABUSE OF THE HOWELLS.

"How do you account for the fact that Colvin abused Miss Howell's family if he loved the girl so much as he pretended?" was asked.

"It was done, probably," replied Maxwell, "to force her parents to influence her to marry him. Colvin knew that he could get no hands to do anything of the kind, but I don't believe he was off his head at all."

Maxwell was asked to describe how the shooting began, but he declined.

It has been ascertained that during the past few weeks Howell has been a frequent visitor to Maxwell's office on Montgomery street.

This fact and the further one that Colvin met Howell at the solicitation of Maxwell, Colvin being under the impression that the meeting was simply for the purpose of talking over the differences existing between Colvin and the Howell family, caused the arrest of Maxwell.

The District Attorney of Alameda county thinks he can prove to a jury the correctness of his theory that the attempted killing of Colvin was prearranged between Maxwell and Howell.

THEORY OF THE POLICE.

"What could be the motive of Maxwell in having Colvin killed?"

"A desire on the part of Maxwell to obtain the position held by Colvin as stenographer in the Oakland Police Court," is the answer of the Oakland police officials.

To substantiate their theory they allude to the fact that when Colvin was shot in the elevator Maxwell did his work for him. This continued two or three days, during which Maxwell was on friendly terms with all the officials of the court, when he made bold to apply for the position, saying Colvin would never be able to resume work, and that he was sure that his proffered services were desired. This, he does, according to the police, hit upon the plan of having Howell shoot Colvin.

In furtherance of his scheme, they say, he encouraged Colvin to write letters to Miss Howell, and then, after the shooting, fleeting on her and her family in Carson City, while at the same time working the head of the family into a fury against Colvin.

The desire of Colvin to have an interview with Miss Howell, and the reason why he wrote letters to her, were not known until after the sight of the shooting, as explained by the wounded man's friends, was the result of his eagerness to clear himself of a false charge that had been made against him.

MISS HOWELL'S LETTERS.

In his possession were a number of letters that had been written to Maxwell by Miss Howell. It said they were just such letters as might with propriety be written by a young lady to a married man. Miss Howell, learning that Colvin had the letters, upbraided Maxwell for allowing them out of his possession. Maxwell replied to her that Colvin had broken open his desk and stolen them. This statement of Maxwell's the friends of Colvin claim was untrue. The letters were given to Colvin by Maxwell, they say, and Colvin was eager to inform Miss Howell or her father of that fact, and once himself of the stigma of having stolen them.

When Sam Colvin agreed to meet Howell, little thinking that it was the intention of Howell to shoot him.

That Colvin wrote letters of an imperitinent character to Miss Howell and published them, without her knowledge, in her father's paper is denied, while the latter states that he did so merely because of the correspondence he received from Maxwell and party because he was so attached to the young lady.

WAS MURDER FROM LOVE.

"At the most," said C. L. Colvin, brother to the wounded man, yesterday, "all he deserved was a good kicking or a pair of black eyes. If somebody had given him a few words of friendly advice he would have been saved much pain. The whole affair from the first few words scribbled on the subject of the young lady. The driveling stuff concerning her that he has published shows the state of his mind. All my folks in the East are perfectly well, and Howell was not justified in putting a bullet into his brain. He has let love get into his head to such a degree that he became over a desk and begging that his life be spared."

Two of the letters said to have been written by Colvin to Miss Howell have been made public. One of them is as follows:

"Dear Annie: Will be at the office at 11 this A. M. Now, don't fail only coming. I learn from people at the hotel that you are to be back there about 11 o'clock. Now, I am serious, and have set my heart on it, and I must see you. Don't disappoint me. Be sure and come. I will be there at 11 sharp. Don't fail. Come to the office. Don't let your refusal to your friend. I thought you knew more sense. It is my way, and you would be sure they would know it. I will be there at 11 sharp. Don't fail. Don't throw a fine name as when I wrote you last, and the same object as when I did talk to you.

"Now, remember, I will be there, and as nothing is sensible talk, I will not say or write anything that can induce you to say nay. There are two sides to it.

"One is: Give me the interview.

"The other is: Intimate that you will not try at all.

"I am determined that you shall have your own choice.

"In regard to the letter, permit me to say what I think about them. As you know, I am accountable for every word I write. I do not write either public or private, and I will not accept any responsibility of any more humiliation. You must consider that I am a gentleman, and as I am a gentleman, you will have but your own way, because it lies with you to choose. If you should take the latter and not consult, I shall give you the honor of adding some of my actions before the public, and I will be sure to give you the address what the address is entitled to. I am right. Go ahead and publish them." And if you do not publish them, I will not forget it. Perhaps the pleasure of talking to me, signify the same by making no reply, and I will consider myself at liberty to act as I please. Now, I am willing to meet you, and you know it. If you want to please you, you know. The above are both your offers, and I only write this to suggest to you to which I think would be the better. Now, I am determined to see you, and I will be sure and see, and also to have my full amount of others.

"Either your 'silent approval' you should change your mind, and then should be a friend still tonight against the publishers you must bear in mind that paper's office is a libel proven offense, as well as fully as serious a crime committed. Now, I am willing to meet you, and you know it. If you should take the latter and not consult, I shall give you the honor of adding some of my actions before the public, and I will be sure to give you the address what the address is entitled to. I am right. Go ahead and publish them." And if you do not publish them, I will not forget it. Perhaps the pleasure of talking to me, signify the same by making no reply, and I will consider myself at liberty to act as I please. Now, I am willing to meet you, and you know it. If you want to please you, you know. The above are both your offers, and I only write this to suggest to you to which I think would be the better. Now, I am determined to see you, and I will be sure and see, and also to have my full amount of others.

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BEGGING OF A STORY.

Here is another letter that was signed "M," the supposition being that Maxwell was Howell to think Maxwell wrote it:

Dear Annie. It is sad about how that you are to be the heroine of this story that is to be published in the paper. I am sorry for you. How very romantic it is to be a heroine in real life. But they also say it is going to be strictly the truth, and of course, would not please you. Now, I am willing to meet you, but either claim that it will be a severe punishment for you. Remember, I am willing to meet you, but either claim that it will be a severe punishment for you. Remember, I am willing to meet you, but either claim that it will be a severe punishment for you. Remember, October 8, 1887, up to the time of publication. Also that it will contain a detailed account of the Baptist Church, your flirtations when only a boy and girl, and your flirtations when only a girl and boy were considered at that time.

"What sort of a girl was Annie?"

"Oh, she was a typical tomboy; always after the boys; a girl full, writing letters all school, and I know of, because I was one of them. But I treated to all alike, and that was well. No, she was not pretty, but was a typical girl, full of fun. Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn would not please that is not