

Depositions of Witnesses.

Canada
Province of British Columbia

District or County of Westminster

THE EXAMINATION OF Dr. Walker M. D.

New Westminster, and Indians Seymour, Charlie & Swanisit of Keetezie, taken on this third day of November, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety, at New Westminster, in the District or County aforesaid, before the undersigned, one of Her Majesty's Justice of the Peace for the said District, in the presence and hearing of Slumach who is charged this day before me, for that he, the said Slumach at Pitt River in said County, on the 8th day of September A. D. 1891, did feloniously, wilfully, and of his malice aforethought, kill and murder one Louie Bee.

Mr Horesby prosecutes
Jason Allard sworn in as
Interpreter

Pittendrigh, J. P.

This Deponent, Seymour an Indian upon his oath saith as follows: I remember the 8th day of September last past I went up in a canoe with Louie Bee from the place where we were living on Pitt river to look at our Sturgeon lines. Louie was the only one with me in the canoe. We went up about two miles when we got to the lines we found there was no bait on the hooks, then we looked around for some dead salmon to bait them with, we went up a little further and saw a canoe come near, we hailed it and found it contained the chief of the Keetezie tribe his wife was along with him. We had a conversation for a few minutes he then left us going down stream. We went

up stream immediately after parting. I heard the report of a gun on the opposite shore that is the left hand side going up stream. Louie Bee proposed to go across to where the shot was fired as he thought it might be white men there, when we got to the shore I saw the prisoner Slumach coming out of the long grass and I told Louie Bee he was coming. Then I caught a glimpse of a canoe hauled up partly on the shore when Slumach got near Louie Bee asked him what he was firing at. He gave no answer but kept walking up towards our canoe until he reached the edge of the river, he was preparing his gun i. e. bringing it into position to shoot without any further word he presented his gun at Louie Bee the deceased and fired, Slumach then ran towards his canoe took out his ammunition and reloaded. After the shot was fired I ~~saw~~ blood coming out of Louie Bee's arm at the back of his shoulder, he grasped hold of the side of the canoe and after a few seconds fell over board and sank in about two and a half feet of water, The canoe was afloat and about 15 or 16 feet from the shore, the water here is shallow for some distance out. I jumped on shore immediately after Louie Bee was shot as I was afraid of getting shot as well as Louie Bee who had given no provocation whatever and the prisoner was putting powder in his gun again.

The gun was a percussion single barrelled one.

I asked the prisoner as I jumped on shore why he had shot the deceased, he said he wanted to drive us away that he did not want any persons to go up there.

I waited in the grass hidden for a short time to see what Slumach would do he was holding his gun during the time I was hid which was about twenty minutes. I thought I might be shot so I down the shoes and then walked over the Railway bridge and up to my house when I got near I hallow'd out to the women that Slumach had killed Louie Bee. The women came out and went with me to my house. I then started ~~walk~~ to come down here and arrived at the city at dark and reported the circumstance to the Indian Agent. I met no one on my way down. I told my own wife and Louie's wife what had happened and there was an old man in the camp

in another compartment but he did not hear.

I remained in the City all night and returned with the Coroner when we arrived we could not find the body as the tide was high, I commenced searching for the body and shortly after found it, and a young man who was with me fired off his gun to attract attention. The body was in deeper water owing to the rise in the tide. I recognized Louie Bee's axe in Slumach's house when Mr Moresby searched it. We had a bottle in the canoe for killing sturgeon. These things were in the canoe when I jumped out. Louie Bee only said to Slumach "what are you shooting at"? Louie had no club in his hand. I was in the stern and Louie Bee in the bow. Louie being in the bow of the canoe was nearer to Slumach, he was side-ways to him. I cannot say if the Coquitlum Chief had any whiskey or not in his canoe as we were some distance from each other. I had no whiskey on that day. I was with Louie Bee all day and he had not had any whiskey either. There was none to be got. The prisoner Slumach now before the Court is the man who shot Louie Bee, on recovering his body I brought it down to Westminster as directed by the Coroner.

I did not hear Louie Bee call you any names.

his

Seymour X

mark

Taken upon oath and acknowledged this 3rd day of November,
A. D. 1890, before me,

Pittendrigh, J. P.

Dr. Walker. M. D. of New Westminster being sworn.

I saith I practice in British Columbia. I remember making a post mortem examination on the body of Louie Bee on the 10th day of September last. ~~xxxxxx~~ The body was in an out house on Front Street lying in shirt waistcoat and pants and covered with blankets. The clothes were wet as if the body had recently been in the water. On examining the body I found a wound on the outer side of the left shoulder on following the wound down I found it passed thorough the upper part of the arm bone into the chest through the left lung through the upper part of the heart and through the right lung into the right plural cavity where I found part of the bullet which had caused the wound. Death was caused by the wound in the heart there was no trace of the deceased having taken any alchhol beverage within several hours before death. The body was that of a well nourished man.

R. Eden Walker. M. D.

Taken upon oath and acknowledged this 3rd day of November,

A. D. 1890, before

me,

Pittendright

J. P.

This deponent Charlie upon his oath saith :

I was in the canoe that brought the body of Louie Bee down to New Westminster. It was the same body that was taken by Mr. Moresby from the canoe and placed in an out house on Front Street and on which the postmortem by the doctor was made. This took place on the 10th day of September 1890.

The prisoner has no question to ask.

his

Charlie X

mark

Taken upon oath and acknowledged before me this 3rd day of November, A. D. 1890, before me.

Pittendrigh.

J. P.