

head with his revolver, in an instant my eyes were filled with blood, but I proceeded to defend myself by drawing my gun; but understand I did not fire until he had snapped his revolver at me. It appears that the barrel of his pistol was so bent by the blow he struck me that it would not operate properly, but I did not know this until all was over. He kept snapping at me, and every time he did so I thought I should be killed. I fired two shots—probably four—and Parker fell to the sidewalk exclaiming, 'You've got me.' I will say that Captain Parker stood up like a brave man from the beginning."

Albright here began to sob and said: "I did not intend to kill him; no I did not."

Beginning at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Coroner Harris held an inquest over the remains of Captain W. B. Parker, who was shot near the City Hall, by Officer George Albright, at 7:30 yesterday morning.

Joseph T. Darke, Mark McKimmins and E. G. Ivius were sworn as jurors.

Attorney W. C. Reilly represented the deceased's slayer. County and Assistant County Attorneys Murphy and Eichnor appeared in behalf of the prosecution.

Hundreds of people gathered in front of the Utah undertaking establishment, where the inquest was being conducted, and it was found necessary for the officers to keep them back. Representatives of the press, attorneys and witnesses only were admitted. The first witness was

ARTHUR FAGERGREEN,

a motorman on the First South street car line of the City Railway company. He testified: I witnessed the trouble between Captain Parker and Officer Albright. Each struck the other a number of blows, after which they separated and drew their revolvers. Three shots were fired in rapid succession and after a brief pause there was a fourth shot and Captain Parker staggered and fell to the pavement. I was standing on the opposite side of the street from where the trouble occurred and could see everything. When Parker fell I crossed the street and helped carry him to the City Hall. During the encounter both men spoke, but owing to the distance I could not hear distinctly what they said. I am unable to state positively who fired the first shot.

JAMES SNAPE,

foreman of the street department, testified: Shortly after seven o'clock this morning I saw Captain Parker come out of the City Hall and pace restlessly up and down the sidewalk leading to State street. He appeared to be waiting for some one. Presently I saw Officer George Albright crossing the street towards the northwest corner of the block. Near the corner he was halted by Captain Parker. Heard the latter say "Albright, I want to see you." After that I heard nothing until Parker drew his revolver and was in the act of striking Albright over the head. Albright raised his arm to ward off the blow, at the same time exclaiming "Look out! Look out! Drop that!" Albright sprang backwards a few steps and then drew his revolver and commenced firing. Sufficient time elapsed after Parker

pointed his gun at Albright for him to have killed the latter before he drew his gun. Four shots were fired. I know that one of them was fired by Captain Parker, as I saw the flash from his pistol. I cannot say who fired the first shot. As soon as Captain Parker was wounded he backed up to a shade tree and exclaimed, "I am hit!" He stood still for a moment and then reeled and fell and was carried to the City Hall, where he expired within a few minutes after the shooting.

DR. MEACHAM

testified: Myself and Dr. Ewing made a post mortem examination of Captain Parker's remains. We discovered a compound comminuted fracture of the right arm. The bone was shattered into a great number of pieces. A second wound was found about four and a half inches to the right and in a line with the navel. The direction taken by the ball was backward and downward. It perforated the intestines five times and severed the iliac artery. This filled the abdomen with blood which, when we made the examination, was in a clotted condition. The ball lodged in the muscles of the left hip. Death was probably due to hemorrhage.

Dr. Ewing was called and corroborated the testimony given by Dr. Meacham.

NIGHT SERGEANT HILTON

testified: A little before 7 o'clock this morning myself and Sergeant Donovan were at the City Hall. Captain Parker came into the office. He was highly intoxicated and said to Donovan in an aggressive manner, "I am still captain of this police force and I want you to understand that you must report the labors of yourself and men to me as in the past." Parker continued in an abusive strain for some time, when Donovan went away. I then said to Parker, "Captain, you have been drinking and had better go home." He replied that he would not, and said that he was going up town. I remonstrated with him, but he was determined, and said, "By God, I am still captain of this police force, and I want these ——— to know it. By request I straightened his collar and tie, which had been disarranged. He then left the building and in less than two minutes I heard a number of pistol shots fired in rapid succession. I exclaimed to Sergeant McCurdy, "My God, Billy, what is that?" We both ran from the building and reached the doorway just in time to see Captain Parker fall to the ground. I saw Albright with a revolver in his hand; the blood was streaming down his face and I said, "George, who is shot, you or the captain?" He replied: "I don't know, I guess we are both shot." I then spoke to Parker but he made no reply, but only gasped and fell back dead. We then carried him to the City Hall and took Albright into custody. Parker was of a quarrelsome disposition when he had been drinking.

OFFICER BIRKNER

testified: I was about a block away when the shooting occurred. I hastened to the scene of the killing and assisted in carrying Captain Parker's body into the City Hall. I said to Albright, "George, what did you do?" He replied, "I had to do it, Charley, or be killed myself." Parker was intoxicated.

SERGEANT MCCURDY

testified: I heard the shots fired and ran out of the City Hall with Sergeant Hilton and saw Captain Parker lying on the grass. Albright was standing fifteen feet east of him with his pistol in his hand. He put in his pocket. He had his hand to his head and the blood was running down his face. When he asked Albright why he had shot Captain Parker the latter replied: "I couldn't run away, Billy; I had to do it." Albright's revolver was a .45 calibre, single-action, of Colt's manufacture. He took it away from Albright and examined it. It contained four empty shells, one empty chamber and one unfired cartridge.

The revolver was here produced in evidence, as was also Captain Parker's, which upon examination proved to be unloaded.

McCurdy continued — Six loaded cartridges were picked up near Captain Parker's side which dropped from his revolver as he fell. (These were also produced but only one showed that an attempt had been made to fire them, the dent in the cap caused by the hammer coming in contact with it being plainly visible).

The empty revolver was then tested and it worked smoothly. The barrel was not bent, as stated by Albright.

Officer Albright was brought out and related the account of the killing just as he gave it to a NEWS reporter yesterday.

An adjournment was then taken until 11 a. m. today.

THE INQUEST CONCLUDED.

The coroner's jury resumed the taking of testimony at noon today.

Frederick Lisle testified: I was standing near the City Hall on Friday morning about 7 o'clock. Saw Captain Parker come out of the hall and walk to and fro on the sidewalk leading to State street. Parker halted near the corner and waited for Officer Albright who was coming toward him from the west. I heard Parker say "Here, I want to see you." Some words were then exchanged between them which I did not hear. Parker then drew his gun and placed it against Albright's body. The latter cried "Drop that, drop that!" and then drew his own revolver. Parker then dealt Albright a blow over the head. Albright retaliated by hitting Parker over the head with his pistol. They then separated and Albright commenced shooting. Am not sure, but I believe Parker snapped his pistol. Albright was on the inside of the sidewalk when he fired. Parker stepped over the grassplot and backed up against a tree. The second shot took effect in Captain Parker's right arm and his gun dropped. I did not see Captain Parker throw the shells from his gun as he fell.

WILLIAM HANSEN

testified: I was near the City Hall yesterday morning when the shooting occurred, and was talking with Mr. Snape when I saw Captain Parker walking from the City Hall to the corner west. Officer Albright was coming across the street towards him. They met near the corner and Captain Parker said: "I want to see you." He then drew his gun