

composing room. The result of the tragedy thus far is that Frank D. Romaine's lifeless body is lying at the undertaking rooms of Joseph William Taylor, and Thomas M. Hughes, who fired the fatal shot, is in the city jail, while the public are shocked at the occurrence. Romaine is from New York, where he has a sister and other relatives. He came to Salt Lake about six months ago. Hughes is from Independence, Missouri, and appeared in this city about two months ago. A third printer, J. B. Lannon, came from San Francisco about a month since. Shortly after this latter date occurred the trouble narrated by the witness Daniels at the coroner's inquest. Hughes had a good suit of clothes and a fine silk hat. Lannon ridiculed the "plug hat," and Romaine joined in. That was the foundation of the quarrel.

Romaine has been under the doctor's care for some time and has undergone several operations. The surgeon did not know whether he could be cured or not, and each time when chloroform has been used, Romaine has said to some of his fellow workmen, "I don't know whether I'll come out of this, but I don't care." On Saturday he remarked to one of the workmen, "I am going to die next week." The other replied that he was joking, and he said, seriously, "It's a fact, I am. Next week will be my last. But I don't care." These remarks had no reference to the tragedy which followed, but related to Romaine's physical condition.

Yesterday afternoon there were quite a number of people in the neighborhood of the shootings, at the time it took place, and after it, until late in the evening, crowds gathered to discuss it and examine where the bullets that missed the man had struck the building. Today Coroner George J. Taylor held an inquisition over the remains, and the story as told by the witnesses gives the circumstances of the killing and the causes which led up to it.

THE INQUEST.

P. T. Nystrom, Thomas E. Harper and John Burt were called as jurors. After viewing the body, which showed that the ball had entered the left side above and back of the hip bone, and had been cut out of the right breast,

F. M. Pinneo was the first witness called by Coroner Taylor. He testified—Yesterday about 2 p.m. Mr. Romaine, Mr. Burlingame, Mr. Arthur and myself were standing in the entrance to the stairway into the *Tribune* building. We were there talking, and Mr. Russell, who had been in Crouch's bindery.

Mr. Thomas M. Hughes and Mr. Daniels were coming down the street; Hughes stepped into the street four or five feet and turned and said to Romaine, "Now, come out here, you son of a b——. You had the drop on me last night with your gun, but you haven't got it now, I'm heeled. Come out and fight like a man." He then showed his gun. He again called Romaine a son of a b—— and said, "Come out and fight." Romaine

said, "Go on, now, and do your shooting," and laughed at him. "Go ahead and shoot," he said again. At that I started for Hughes and thought I might induce him to put up his gun. I thought Romaine had gone into the hallway. Hughes edged around to the sidewalk and I saw Romaine right behind me with his pistol in his hand. Hughes backed off a little. I stepped out from between them and the firing commenced. Romaine was not struck by the first shots. I thought Hughes was going to shoot when I moved out; in fact I thought both would shoot. There were only four other persons there when the shooting was done; others came up right after. After the fourth shot Hughes went around the corner. Romaine did not fire or even raise his pistol. The last remark before the shooting was that by Romaine, "Go ahead, and shoot." The two men were about fifteen feet apart. Hughes had got back to the sidewalk when he began shooting. Romaine was in front of the *Tribune* bindery window. He turned himself every time a shot was fired. After the last shot I said, "You are not hit, are you, Frank?" and he said, "Yes, I am, right here in the stomach." I put my arms around him and he laid down. There were four shots, and either the third or fourth struck him. He seemed to dodge the shots. After the last shot Hughes went around the corner. Dr. Bowers came up immediately and took charge of Romaine. I went to the corner and saw Hughes coming back, under arrest. Romaine lived about ten minutes. He never spoke after he laid down; he only gasped. It was about 20 minutes after 2 when the shooting took place. I know nothing of a quarrel before the shooting. Romaine made no threats. Neither of the men were married, that I know of. Both were printers and worked at the *Tribune*; Romaine had been there about five months; he was about 28 years old. He had been in both the English and American navies. He has no relatives in Utah, but may have in the East. I always thought both were gentlemen, and inclined to be peaceable. It is not usual for printers to carry pistols, any more than others. Hughes was not in the habit of carrying one, for he asked me, a few days before to loan him one, but I had none. I never saw him with a pistol before. He shot rapidly, and evidently shot to kill. When he wanted the pistol from me, he said he wanted to be prepared for some trouble which he anticipated but it was not with Romaine. Romaine had a fuss with a man named Kyle, a couple of months ago. Neither Romaine nor Hughes was under the influence of liquor.

V. V. Daniels testified—Pinneo's testimony is straight as to what occurred. I heard Hughes say to Romaine, "You wanted a gun fight last night, and can have it today." I saw Romaine draw his pistol as he stepped out after Mr. Pinneo. Then the shooting commenced. I asked Romaine if he was hit, and

he said "Yes, go for a doctor." As to the previous trouble Romaine took up a friend's quarrel. This friend and Hughes had trouble about three weeks ago, arising out of a joke. This friend was Mr. J. B. Lannon, a printer. Lannon and Romaine joked Hughes severely about a new suit of clothes. Hughes warned them to stop. He told Lannon he did not want any trouble, but if he did it would be serious. He then went out of the room. Hughes and Lannon quarreled again, and Romaine went between them. Hughes remarked that it was no use to separate them if they got to fighting. Romaine took Lannon's arm, and the latter said to Hughes, "I'd as soon slap you in the mouth as any one I know." With that Hughes ran to a table and laid his cane down, and reached to his hip pocket and drew a pocket knife. Lannon was then going out, and Hughes said, "Come back, you son of a b——, if you think you can slap my face." I stopped with Hughes and Romaine, and Lannon went out. From that time there was a coolness between Romaine and Hughes. The former frequently made sneering remarks about the latter, but not in his hearing. Hughes also made a remark that was applicable to Romaine, and I told him he should apologize. He said he had no reference to Romaine, and told the latter so. The latter said he had paid no attention to it, but if the time came to call Hughes down, he would not be slow in doing it. Hughes thought all was settled, but I did not. Last Monday Romaine went up to Hughes, in the office, and said he had attributed the remark referred to to his (Hughes') dense ignorance. I expected a fight, and stepped between them. Hughes asked if his apology had not been sufficient, and Romaine, evaded the question, and the quarrel wound up by Romaine saying, "If you ever want a gun fight or a knife fight, I am an expert at either." Hughes asked me to find out what the trouble was with Romaine, as he (Hughes) did not know of having given any cause. The two men did not speak to each other after this, till Saturday. On Friday Romaine came to the office with a 32-calibre Smith & Wesson revolver. I cleaned it, and after I gave it to him, some one asked him what he was going to do. He replied, "Oh, some son of a b—— might pull a knife on me," and looked at Hughes. I did not like the remark, which was also heard by Hughes. That night Hughes asked me if I did not think Romaine or Lannon was going to kill him; I told him I thought there would be no serious trouble, and Hughes said there would not be if he could help it, but if there was it would be serious. Up to that time he carried no pistol. He remarked that night, "If a man carries a gun for me, he'll have to kill me;" this was rather than that he would quarrel. On Sunday, about 2 o'clock, Hughes told me that on Saturday night, after the paper was up, he met Romaine. This