

FRISCO CONS'D MINING COMPANY.

Gen, Id. April 16th.

On the night of the 14th inst., about 10.12 (which is the exact time, although the witnesses are saying 10.20), a Union man by the name of Fisher was shot and killed on the sidewalk in front of Dan Hamington's saloon. At the time the shot was fired operative was in Balch & Myer's saloon just across the street from Hamington's. Operative with Myers and Neil McLaughlin, went to the door to see why the shot was fired, and on looking out Myers said, "There goes big Sam Findley". Operative looked down the street towards the postoffice and saw a man walking in the direction of the postoffice. All he could note was that he was a very large man, and wore a large white hat and a dark suit of clothes and frock coat, but he is positive the man was Findley. He went into the hallway which leads to the rooms over the postoffice, stopped a moment, then stepped out and walked down to Jake Bloom's dance hall.

On looking across the street operative saw a man lying there, and he thought at the time that Findley had got into a row and shot the man, as he could see that the snow was getting colored around the man's head, from the blood from a wound. Operative among others went across to the man, and as more people came up they were told by all who saw Findley walk away that he had killed the man. When the Justice of the Peace arrived and asked operative about the matter, the latter said that he supposed that Big Sam had done the deed, or atleast ~~he~~ knew who had done it, as he was there at the time. When Sam Findley came up and asked who did it, operative was surprised as he thought it was the poorest defense he could have made, but he was very much under the influence of liquor at the time.

It seems now that the Deputies want to let Findley out of the scrape they have to lay it on someone else, and it looks

(2)

as if they were to accuse operative of the deed. Findley, Hicks and others are talking among themselves, so that the people in town hear them, saying that suspicion points to operative as the guilty party, and they also say that Cap, the one-eyed deputy saw operative run across the street into Balch & Myers' saloon just after the shot was fired, while as a matter of fact operative was in that place when he heard the shot. Ike Gonnar, Myers and two McLaughlin boys saw him there at the time. Operative has been agitating with the rest during the past week, so that the deputies have got him spotted as the real thing.

There is not one of the men who have been let out lately, but would kill Findley at once if they were sure of not being caught. Smith, Butch, Peterson, John Hunt, Gorman, Myers and Balch tried to get up a crowd last night to take Findley out and hang him, but they could not get enough men together. Some of them, however, are liable to get Findley now at any time.

Gem, Id. April 17th.

Balch told operative today that he expected several men over from Butte tomorrow, and that they would sift this killing matter to the bottom, and said that if operative or any others of the boys were arrested they should go quietly and they would soon be got out of jail.

Things nearly came to war this forenoon, when Hicks was flourishing his Winchester. Henry Connolly offered to dig up 140 Winchesters if the boys would come with him and use them, but none would offer to go. Operative could not learn exactly where the guns are kept, but they are in a cabin in or near the town.

The Union men think that the deputies wanted to break up the inquest and intimidate the witnesses.

The coroner's inquest was finished up last night but no verdict was given out.

Bob Bradley has gone to Butte, Mont., and several other



(3)

agitators have left camp so that things are very quiet now. The only thing to be feared now is that some of the deputies or miners may get to drinking and talking when there will certainly be trouble. The people seem to be dazed still over the killing affair, and it would be hard to tell what they might do if tempted. Operative reports that it would be unwise to let either Hicks or Findley come here at present as officers. April 23, 1901.

Cap. Pruitt has watched every move of the operative up to last night, so that he could not go into the postoffice even, without Pruitt accompanying him.

Gem, Id. April 20th.

A meeting of 5000 Union men was held last night in Balch & Myers' Saloon, to talk over the death of Fisher. They are going to get an attorney to prosecute the case, and they will try if possible to get the sheriff put out of office for not putting Hicks and Findley under arrest.

There is a man here at present who calls himself Wm. Smith, but operative is sure that is not his right name. He is here to do missionary work of some kind but operative has not succeeded in getting his cue yet. Operative offered to help him in anything he wanted done, and he said he would call on the operative if anything turned up here in the next few days.

Seattle, Wash., April 24th, 1901.