

THE DAY IN MARQUETTE.

Prospective Establishment of a Wood Pulp Paper Mill On Dead River.

MURDERER JOHN McDONALD NOW IN MARQUETTE'S JAIL.

Theory Advanced to Account For What Has Been Called a Motiveless Crime—Musical Association Elects Officers.

Prospects of a Pulp Mill.
John McDonald, of Iron River, who is well known through the upper peninsula, was in the city lately and talked considerably of a new industry which in all probability will be established in the near future somewhere in the upper peninsula and very likely in the neighborhood of Marquette. This is the manufacture of paper from wood-pulp. Within the last decade the business of making of paper from wood has increased enormously. Processes have been so improved that it is now possible to send in cordwood at one end of the mill and turn out good, white print and stock at the other. In the adjoining state of Wisconsin the industry is a very important one and at Appleton, Neenah, Marinette and other points great mills are in existence, turning out tons upon tons of paper and earning good dividends. The woods found to be the best for paper making are spruce and poplar. If the three requisites of large water power, sufficient supply of wood and shipping facilities can be combined a well-managed pulp mill is an almost certain financial success. The water supply must be abundant both because a pulp mill contains much heavy machinery and because large quantities of that fluid are used in the various processes.

Mr. McDonald was disposed to be somewhat reticent about his plans but admitted, when questioned by a *Mining Journal* reporter, that he was looking for a suitable site for a pulp mill and that the parties interested with him would almost certainly start one in the near future.

"I have been working on this thing for nearly two years," said Mr. McDonald. "I had an idea that the large quantities of spruce and poplar in this region might be profitably worked up into paper. Much of this timber is upon lands from which the pine has been stripped and which is regarded as comparatively worthless, and can therefore be had at a low figure. I went to the mills at Appleton and elsewhere and studied their processes. I had to find capital for the enterprise, and I knew that no capitalist would go in unless I could show exact figures. I got them and went after my capitalists. I have been promised \$200,000 to start a mill if I can show a sufficient supply of spruce and poplar and an ample water power. I can convince them that the supply of timber is all right and am now looking for a water power that is both convenient to the timber supply and also powerful enough."

"Have you found it?"
"Well, I don't care about telling that just now as it might interfere with some plans. I can't give away my hand to that extent."

From other sources it is learned that a water power on Dead river, some distance above the electric lighting station is under consideration and may be used. There is said to be some question whether enough power can be got at this location as the projectors of the enterprise believe that 1000 horse power will be needed. The timber supply in the neighborhood is said to be ample. If the water power shall prove to be equally satisfactory there is a strong probability that the near future will see established near this city a large and prosperous wood pulp paper mill.

Murderer McDonald Here.
Sheriff O'Rourke, of Ontonagon county, yesterday brought to the Marquette jail John McDonald whose apparently wanton killing of Dunk Beveridge's wife, and wounding of Mrs. Redpath and Beveridge himself near Matchwood about three months ago will be recalled by all readers. It will be remembered that McDonald, the Beveridges and the Redpaths were all living in the same house, that during the night McDonald arose and taking a Winchester rifle, began firing into the other rooms. The first bullet grazed Beveridge's forehead, whereupon he tried to arise and grapple with the assassin. A second ball passed through his arm and wounded Mrs. Beveridge fatally. McDonald then turned his fire upon Mrs. Redpath, inflicting wounds which still confine her to the hospital. Beveridge then grappled with McDonald and took the rifle away from him. He made no effort to escape, though he might easily have done so, but came peacefully into town the next day and gave himself up. The affair is a curious one from the professed absence of ill-feeling between the parties and the apparent absence of a motive on McDonald's part for his attempted wholesale slaughter. Owing to the illness of Judge Williams the case has been brought to this county for trial, and will probably come up next month in the circuit court. McDonald's attorney is F. F. Kuts, of Bessemer.

McDonald was seen at the jail by a *Mining Journal* reporter yesterday

afternoon. He is a short, heavy-set man, with a rather frank and open countenance, blue eyes and a heavy brown beard. If he were out from behind the bars he certainly would not be picked out by anyone as a man apt to commit wholesale murder, but as a rather jolly, good-natured, if somewhat slow-witted fellow. He uses reasonably good English and seems to be fond of reading, though without any great amount of education. He was willing enough to talk about the killing, though careful not to admit that that he actually did the deed himself.

"I don't know much about it," he said. "Some say I did the shooting. I don't know. There was another man there who might have done it."

"Who was that?"
"Redpath; he was there."
"Did you have any quarrel with these people?"

"No, we were all friendly enough."
"You had the gun didn't you?"
"Beveridge and I had the gun."

"Were you trying to take it away from him?"
"No, he was trying to take it away from me, I guess."

"It has been said by some persons that you got up in your sleep and did this shooting. How is that?"

"Well, I don't know exactly. There was some shooting done. I can't say who did it. There was another man there who might have done it."

"What object would the other man have?"
"I don't know."

Further conversation came substantially to the same end as this. McDonald was willing enough to talk about the collateral circumstances of the crime, but when it came down to his actual firing the shots, he relapsed into "I don't know. There was an air of cunning in his manner when he brought out the fact that there was 'another man', Redpath, in the house, 'who might have done the shooting.' As the possibility that any other than McDonald could have fired the shots has not been before admitted the latter's manner and words seem to point out pretty closely what his defense will be.

As stated before out of the most curious point about the bloody affair is the apparent absence of a motive on McDonald's part. In this connection the statements of a certain city official will be of interest, as furnishing a working theory of McDonald's crime.

"I have known McDonald for some time," said the official mentioned, who has considerable experience in criminal matters, "and always thought him a harmless sort of a fellow. As I see it the affair was about this way. Beveridge is a man of the worst life and reputation. In fact most people who know anything about him would have thought it a good riddance to had rubbish if he had been killed. Redpath was little if any better. The two women were also of very bad character. Whether they were married to Beveridge and Redpath or not I don't know, but I doubt it."

"Well, McDonald had a valuable homestead. These two things got hold of him and bought it for a song. They had him drunk here about Marquette for a month. They got his property, then took him up in the woods, kept him sodden with liquor and set the women on to 'work' him for his money. They connived at a licentious intrigue between McDonald and one or both the women."

"In some interval of comparative sobriety McDonald probably realized that he had been played for the softest kind of a sucker. He had sold his homestead for a song and then allowed the female accomplices of the sharpers who bought it to befool him out of the little money he had received. Brooding over this a desire for revenge that amounted to insanity came over him and he tried to kill those who had fleeced him."

McDonald's defense will probably be insanity. Taking the above theory of the crime as the true one, which all circumstances tend to show it is, one can easily imagine that a man like McDonald, who could be so loaded with drink as to practically give away his property and then permit himself to be fleeced out of his remaining possessions, might easily be weak in his wits.

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