

WANTS TO CLEAR MRS. EDEY'S NAME

**Murdock Now Says Husband
Paid Him to Act as
Her Protector.**

WARNED HER OF DANGER

**Told Her She Would Be Shot if She
Returned Home—Blames Edey
for His Difficulties.**

Gardner Murdock, Manager of the Terra Marine Inn at Huguenot, S. I., whose suit against Henry C. Edey for the alienation of his wife's affections is believed to have resulted in the double tragedy Thursday morning at Bellport, L. I., said yesterday that he had been paid to take Mrs. Edey with him from Bellport last August in order to facilitate a settlement of the tangled marital relations of the Murdock and Edey families.

He added that Henry C. Edey came to him and told him stories of marital infelicity, saying that he could no longer live happily with his wife and that he intended to obtain a separation. He did not hint at a divorce, but said that he wanted Mrs. Edey to leave Bellport. Murdock said further:

"He paid me \$10,000 to act as her protector and take her away. He had previously caused Mrs. Murdock to leave my home and go back to her parents."

"On the morning of Aug. 10 last, when Mrs. Edey and I came to New York together, he had his wife's trunks packed and ordered her out of the house. When she insisted that she was a true and loving wife he caused her trunks to be thrown out on the lawn. Up to this time I had been made the unsuspecting scapegoat, but when I took Mrs. Edey to Manhattan I delivered her into the hands of her sister and her aunt, Mrs. Abbie Bill of 220 West 123d Street. The latter met us at the train at Jamaica. Mrs. Edey was aware that her husband intended to obtain a legal separation, but she had no idea that he intended to blacken her name."

Murdock said that the next day he joined Mrs. Edey at her aunt's home and there saw her husband, who came there to sign an agreement to settle \$100,000 upon his wife. Edey paid part of this amount by check and agreed to pay the remainder later.

Murdock said that then he went to Texas, where Mrs. Edey and Mrs. Bill joined him later. Mrs. Edey was only there a short time when she received a letter from her husband begging her to return. When she went away Murdock says he told her that she was going back to get shot. He also said that during the period that Mrs. Edey and he were away from Bellport he was never in her company alone for a minute. He added:

"Mrs. Edey was one of the finest women I have ever known. Her husband planned deliberately to throw her into my company by engaging me as her riding instructor and by stabling her horse at my livery. My relations with her at all times were honorable, and I am determined to clear her name of any shame which this scandal has attached to it."

Murdock said that he had not lived with his wife since their separation last August, although he admitted that she had visited him at the Terra Marine Inn with their son Milton, 11 years old.

Speaking of his suit against Edey, he said it was not a selfish one, and he did not want a cent of his money. He wished only, he said, to provide for his wife. "We would still have been together were it not for the intrigues of Edey," he added.

"Edey probably wanted his wife to blacken her name in order to stop the proceedings, and she refused," said Murdock. "That is my idea of the case."

At the Bellport residence of the Edeys in which the murder and suicide occurred, a funeral service was held shortly before midnight Thursday, when the Rev. A. W. Ebersole, pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, read the impressive service for the dead over the two bodies, in the presence of Charles and Frederick Edey, the brothers of Henry C. Edey. Interment will take place to-day at Woodlawn Cemetery.