

MRS. BOYER AND FATHER FREED OF MURDER CHARGE

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Mrs. Amelia Boyer and her father, P. J. Sammon, were acquitted of the murder of Mrs. Boyer's husband at Trafford on the night of October 16. The jury reached a verdict of not guilty in the case of Mrs. Boyer at four o'clock Wednesday afternoon after a deliberation of an hour and a half. This trial lasted three days. On the instructions of Judge Whitten the jury returned a verdict of not guilty in the case of Mr. Sammon without leaving its box Thursday morning.

Few murder cases have attracted the widespread interest that the Boyer case did this week. It was three o'clock Monday afternoon before a jury had been selected, 55 men having been called. The jury was composed of R. O. Bovard of South Huntingdon township, Haddie Drousfield of Parnassus, Jacob Fester of Sewickley township, J. B. Gilchrist of Bell township, David Mellander of South Huntingdon township, Blair Mills of St. Clair township, Frank Morse of New Kensington, Frank McClain of Rostraver

ton, Frank McClain of Rostraver township, Pat J. O'Conner of Scottsdale, John Pershing of Hempfield township, J. C. Shields of New Salem borough, and M. W. Taylor of Unity township.

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Just before noon Mrs. Boyer took the stand on her own behalf and told her story which was practically the same as the one she told at the time she was arrested and confessed to the shooting. She told of the trouble between herself and husband, of their separation and of the trip back to Trafford on the night of the shooting. She stated that her husband and her father were fighting and that her husband reached to his hip pocket and threatened to kill her father. Believ-

threatened to kill her father. Believing her father's life was in danger she shot, the bullet entering her husband's back. R. W. Piper of Trafford, who had been subpoenaed as a witness of the commonwealth was not called upon by the prosecution and the defense summoned him to the stand. His testimony of the shooting was similar to that of Mrs. Boyer. P. J. Sammon's testimony was very similar to that of his daughter.

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The testimony was completed early Wednesday morning and Attorney Shaner for the defense summed up the case and asked for a verdict of not guilty. Before noon District Attorney Cort addressed the jury on be-

(Continued on page 4.)

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(Continued from page 1)

half of the Commonwealth. A noon recess was taken after which Judge Whitten charged the jury. At 2:55 the jury was given the case at at 3:55 they returned with their verdict. After the verdict was read Mrs. Boyer fainted, but was soon revived and was able to go to the home of her parents in Wilkinsburg that evening.

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Thursday morning Sammon was placed on trial charged with murder also, but when the Commonwealth stated that the only evidence it had to offer was the words of Boyer before he died, accusing his father-in-law of shooting him. Owing to the lack of sufficient evidence, Judge Whitten directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

Mary Chikosky of New Kensington.

George Boyer, brother of the late Frank Boyer, who was murdered last month, is home from the Columbia hospital, having recovered from his operation.

Albert Boyer has recovered from blood poisoning in his arm and is back home again.