

EYE-WITNESS'S STORY.

Dramatic Moment for Police Constable.

ALLEGED HOLD-UP.

Dead Man's Last Moments in Hospital.

An eye-witness of the tragedy, interviewed by a representative of the Cairns "Post", alleges that the Russian with the revolver, Stefan Morga, fired, and Zahraey Beznoski was seen to fall. Constable Anderson advanced towards Stefan Morga, who, our informant alleges, said, "If you come a yard further, I'll blow your brains out. "Stand! Constable Anderson stood. "Now walk backwards", said Morga. Constable Anderson did the obvious thing. He retired a few paces. Morga then placed the revolver to his own head and fired. Constable Anderson ran forward and caught the man as he fell. Some fishing enthusiasts hearing bullets skidding along the wharf and spluttering into the water in close proximity to where they were sitting, fled in disorder to the shelter offered by a couple of casks. The whole tragedy occupied but a brief space of time, and in the course of the next half hour, the wounded men were in the hospital.

Beznoski had been a follower of railway work for some time, and had lately been employed on Targali construction. He came to Australia in 1914. Morga followed the same calling, and arrived in this country a year later.

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According to the police reports they were both industrious workers, and were quiet and inoffensive. The seat of the trouble appears, at this stage, to have been caused by nothing more than the victim losing his revolver, and accusing Morga of taking it.

DIED AT MID-DAY.

Human nature has rarely afforded a more poignant picture than that of the two Russians as they lay side by side in bed at the Cairns District Hospital on Sunday morning. On the right lay Morga, half-conscious, his head bandaged, and a terrible gaping wound round his right eye partly visible, gazing with what little sight remained in the remaining eye upon the dying form of Beznoski, who expired shortly after mid-day.