

THE STORY OF A QUAKER MURDERER.

An Incident of the Early Days of Telegraphy in England.

The various lines of telegraph in England have lately passed into the hands of the Government by purchase, and a curious collection of telegraph machines, new and old, has been brought together at the General Post Office in London.

One of those exhibited is said to be the identical one which, just a quarter of a century ago, assisted in the hands of the Government by purchase, and a curious collection of telegraph machines, new and old, has been brought together at the General Post Office in London.

This is a five-needle instrument, of Cook & Wheatstone's, and from the letters of the alphabet, which are displayed upon its strange-looking diamond-shaped dial, the letter "Q" has been omitted. This deficiency placed a trifling orthographical difficulty in the way of a clerk who had to telegraph instructions for the arrest of Tawell, a "Quaker," and occasioned great embarrassment to the person who had to receive the message.

His advice was followed, and after the receipt of three more letters the word "K-w-a-k-e-r" was formed, and at once, when read phonetically, recognized as the equivalent for "Quaker."

The part played by the telegraph on this occasion excited extraordinary interest in England, inasmuch as it was almost the first time that it had been employed there in the detection of a notable crime.

The circumstances of the case were these:—About twenty miles from Slough, a station twenty miles from London, on the Great Western Railway, and the same distance from Windsor Castle, is a hamlet called Salthill, which was famous in the days of Eton Montem as a grand rendezvous.

In Australia intelligence and good conduct at length procured him emancipation. He took a shop in Sydney, and became rich as a chemist. Returning, he settled in the neighborhood whence he had been expropriated, and the residents, considering his crime expiated, received him well.

The Society of Friends, however, declined his advances. His second wife was, however, a Quaker of reputable family and character, and he assumed the garb of that sect and tried in every way to identify himself with it.

During his residence at Berkhamstead, a small town about seven miles from Windsor, he had built schools, founded savings banks, and promoted many schemes of benevolence.

On the 1st of January, 1847, a man who always wore the garb of Quaker, and was in the habit of frequenting the Jerusalem Coffee House, a famous place of refreshment in the city of London, told the waiter there that he was going to dine at the west end of the town, and left with him a greatcoat, which he said he would call for on his return.

He then proceeded to the terminus of the Great Western Railway—which was then the extreme west end—and proceeded by the clock train to Slough.

He went thence to one of the cottages, before described, at Salthill, occupied by a woman known by the name of Sarah Hart. The cottage consisted of two very small rooms on the ground floor.

On a small table she found a bottle of port, and two tumblers. One contained some froth, the other porter, or porter and water. The woman Hart lay dead upon the floor, with her hair and clothes in wild disorder.

Meanwhile Tawell, after a somewhat circuitous course, at last found himself again at the Slough station, where he took his seat for London.

Those familiar with the level ground between Slough and London know how smoothly the broad-gauge carriages of the Great Western Railroad glide over that twenty miles. The murderer, as he sank into the seat of a first-class carriage, no doubt felt that each mile diminished the chance of detection.

At that time the electric telegraph was a novelty, and very little used, indeed, on the Great Western line Slough was then its terminus.

Consequently, Tawell was probably quite unsuspecting that, as he sped over the ground, an exact description of him was on its way to London. The suspicions of an intelligent clergyman, who became cognizant of the horrible occurrence shortly after it happened, were awakened; he immediately took action in the matter, and the result of his operations was a telegram to the metropolitan police.

Long before the arrival of the train in London a policeman was on the platform, and as soon as Tawell got out of the carriage, he quickly identified him as the man described by wire, and, drawing a plain coat over his uniform, accompanied the omnibus which Tawell entered to the Bank of England.

Tawell got out of the omnibus at the bank, and went to the Jerusalem Coffee House, where he called for the coat which he had left in charge of the waiter. He then proceeded, still followed by the policeman, to various other places, and finally entered a lodging-house kept by a member of the Society of Friends. Outside this house the policeman waited for an hour, and, finding that the prisoner did not come out, went away.

The next morning further intelligence was received from Slough, and the officer returned to the house where he left the man. On learning that Tawell had gone out, the policeman proceeded to the Jerusalem Coffee House, where he found him, and said, "I believe you were down at Slough yesterday." Tawell replied that he had not been there, and knew no one in the place.

"You must be mistaken," said he, "in the identity, my station in life places me above suspicion." The officer, however, was of a different opinion, took him down to Salthill, and placed him in the custody of the local police.

The stomach of the deceased woman was chemically examined, and fifty grains of prussic acid discovered. Subsequently the shoppman was found who, on the day of the murder, had sold him the prussic acid.

In the following March the case came on for trial before Mr. Baron Parke, a judge of the first eminence, afterwards Lord Wensleydale. Mr. Serjeant, now Judge, Byles was counsel for the prosecution; Mr. Fitzroy, now Chief Baron, Kelly for the prisoner, the latter being considered almost unrivalled as a defender in such cases.

On the 28th of the same month Tawell was executed. The chaplain and governor of the jail sat up with him the night before the execution. He listened to the exhortation of the former, and appeared to pray with devotion.

The main motive for the crime seemed to be the apprehension of his connection with Hart becoming known to his wife, and much of his anxiety, to the last, to conceal his guilt arose from an undeviating desire to retain the lady's faith in his integrity.

A circumstance which added considerably to the extraordinary interest felt in the case was the statement that Tawell was a Quaker—a Quaker murderer being even a greater rarity than a Quaker baby, which Sydney Smith declared he had never seen, and of which he professed to doubt the existence.

Tawell had unquestionably been born and bred a member of the Society of Friends, but having been convicted of the possession of a forged Bank of England note, was sentenced to transportation. Indeed, but for the dislike entertained by members of his sect to hanging a man, he would probably have gone to the gallows twenty-five years before, that being then the penalty for forgery.

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The amount of Bonds issued is \$625,000, and are secured by a First Mortgage on real estate, railroad, and franchises of the Company, the former of which cost two hundred thousand dollars, which has been paid for from Stock subscriptions, and after the railroad is finished, so that the products of the mines can be brought to market, it is estimated to be worth \$1,000,000.

The Railroad connects with the Cumberland Valley Railroad about four miles below Chambersburg, and runs through a section of the most fertile part of the Cumberland Valley.

We sell them at 92 and accrued interest from March 1. For further particulars apply to C. T. YERKES, Jr., & CO., BANKERS, No. 20 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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At 92 and Interest added to Date of Purchase.

All free from State tax, and issued in sums of \$1000.

These Bonds are Coupon and Registered—Interest on the former payable January and July 1; on the latter, April and October.

The bonds secured by this mortgage are issued to WALTER MORRIS and JOSIAH BACON, Trustees, who cannot, under its provisions, deliver to the Company, at any time, an amount of bonds exceeding the full-paid capital stock of the Company—limited to \$25,000,000.

Enough of these bonds are withheld to pay off all existing liens upon the property of the Company, to meet which at maturity it now holds ample means independently of the bonds to be reserved by the Trustees for that purpose, making the bonds practically a FIRST MORTGAGE upon all its railroads, their equipment, real estate, etc.

The gross revenue of the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1869 was \$17,250,511, or nearly twenty-eight per cent. of the capital and debts of the Company at the end of that year.

Since 1857 the dividends to the Stockholders have averaged nearly eleven and one-half per cent. per annum after paying interest on its bonds and passing annually a large amount to the credit of construction account.

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From Charlottesville to Tidewater by this route the distance is 40 miles less than via Alexandria; 45 miles less than via Richmond and West Point; 124 miles less than via Norfolk.

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CITY ORDINANCES. COMMON COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA.

CLERK'S OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA, March 25, 1870.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Philadelphia on Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of March, 1870, an ordinance, entitled, "An Ordinance to authorize a loan for the erection of a bridge across the river Schuylkill at Fairmount," is hereby published for public information.

JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council.

AN ORDINANCE To Authorize a Loan for the Erection of a Bridge across the River Schuylkill at Fairmount.

Section 1. The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, that the Mayor of Philadelphia be and he is hereby authorized to borrow, at not less than par, on the credit of the city corporation, from time to time, such sums of money as may be necessary to pay for the construction and erection of a bridge over the river Schuylkill at Fairmount, not exceeding in the whole the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars, for which interest not to exceed the rate of six per cent. per annum, to be paid quarterly out of said income and taxes to a sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemption and payment of said certificates.

Section 2. Whenever any loan shall be made by virtue thereof, there shall be, by force of this ordinance, annually appropriated out of the income of the corporate estates, and from the sum raised by taxation, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on said certificates; and the further sum of three-tenths of one per centum on the par value of such certificates so issued shall be appropriated quarterly out of said income and taxes to a sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemption and payment of said certificates.

Section 3. Whenever any loan shall be made by virtue thereof, there shall be, by force of this ordinance, annually appropriated out of the income of the corporate estates, and from the sum raised by taxation, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on said certificates; and the further sum of three-tenths of one per centum on the par value of such certificates so issued shall be appropriated quarterly out of said income and taxes to a sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemption and payment of said certificates.

Section 4. The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, that the Mayor of Philadelphia be and he is hereby authorized to borrow, at not less than par, on the credit of the city, from time to time, one million five hundred thousand dollars, to be applied as follows, viz:—First, For the building of a bridge over the River Schuylkill at South street, eight hundred thousand dollars. Second, For the payment of ground rents and mortgages, seven hundred thousand dollars, for which interest not to exceed the rate of six per cent. per annum, to be paid half yearly on the first days of January and July, at the office of the City Treasurer.

The principal of the said loan shall be payable and paid at the expiration of thirty years from the date of the same, and not before, without the consent of the holders thereof; and the certificates therefor, in the usual form of the certificates of the City Loan, shall be issued in such amounts as the lenders may require, but not for any fractional part of one hundred dollars, or if required, in amounts of five hundred or one thousand dollars, and it shall be expressed in said certificates that the loan therefor is authorized and the interest thereof, are payable free from all taxes.

Section 5. Whenever any loan shall be made by virtue thereof, there shall be, by force of this ordinance, annually appropriated out of the income of the corporate estates, and from the sum raised by taxation, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on said certificates; and the further sum of three-tenths of one per centum on the par value of such certificates so issued shall be appropriated quarterly out of said income and taxes to a sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemption and payment of