

**FOUND DEAD.**

**The Lifeless Body of James Thomas Discovered Sunday Morning.**

Lying in a position as if enjoying a morning siesta, the lifeless body of James Thomas, of West Fifth Street was found by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Seltzer, of Park Street, while out for a walk in Creveling's Woods about half past nine Sunday morning. The body was lying about eight feet from the road, but in all probability would have escaped the vision of pedestrians on account of a heap of underbrush which screened it from view. Mr. and Mrs. Seltzer were looking for a shady place to rest when the discovery was made. Mr. Seltzer was the first to see it and he was under the impression that the man was only intoxicated. Leaving to get a more desirable place he took a second glance which satisfied him that the man was dead. The two then hurried to Andrew Creveling's and disclosed their find. The latter rode into town and notified Guy Jacoby, Esq., who in company with Isaiah Hagenbuch and W. H. Gilmore drove out to view the body. Upon instruction from Mr. Jacoby the body was removed to W. J. Correll's undertaking establishment.

Coroner Sharpless, who was at once notified that his presence was needed, arrived here with J. D. Bodine, of Catawissa, about four o'clock in the afternoon. He empanelled a jury consisting of Thos. Gorrey, C. A. Kleim, Frank L. Faust, W. J. Correll, J. D. Bodine and J. S. Grimes. These gentlemen went out to where the body was found, and after looking around decided that it would be impossible to arrive at a verdict in the case until the procurable evidence had been heard. The inquest, was, therefore, continued until Tuesday evening.

At the inquest, which was held in the parlor of the Central Hotel Tuesday evening, it was brought out that Thomas had left his home, on Fifth street, about half-past six Saturday evening. About an hour thereafter he was in conversation with Charles Hartman, near the hose house of the Rescue Fire Company, on East Fifth street, to whom he expressed his intention of going out to Andrew Creveling's to purchase a load of hay. This was the last seen of him alive.

The first witness called was D. P. Butler, of Centre street. He said that Thomas was his fireman on the D. L. & W. Railroad; had worked together for nearly a year, or since last August. He described him as a good, jolly fellow, always full of fun; never knew him to have any trouble of any kind; was shocked when informed of his tragic death, and believed the rumor incorrect, until he had seen the body. They had quit work late Saturday afternoon and the last thing Thomas said to him was that he would see him in the vicinity of the Exchange Hotel that evening. He waited around 'til nearly half-past ten, and Thomas, failing to materialize, went home.

Mrs. Peter Seltzer was the next witness called. She told how she and her husband had started for a walk, and how, while looking for a shady spot, they had discovered the body. She appeared to be badly mixed as to time, location and distance, and her memory, too, was very poor. She testified that she never knew Thomas, and didn't think that she'd ever seen him before. She was not in the habit of walking out East Fifth street; had not been out in that direction for a long time, and had never been out that way alone. This portion of the witness' testimony was disproved by Thomas Savage, W. W. Achenbach and Jay Brown, who saw her sitting under an apple tree near the Creveling house, and not far from where the body was found, about half-past seven Saturday evening. The testimony of these gentlemen was taken for the purpose of satisfying the minds of the jurymen whether or not the woman knew more about Thomas' whereabouts on the night preceding the finding of the body than she cared to tell. She treated nearly all of the questions asked her in a manner that was decidedly aggravating, and had to be reminded several times that she would be compelled to answer, before she would even open her mouth.

Peter Seltzer was then called. He is the husband of Mrs. Seltzer. He described the Sunday morning walk, which led to the discovery of the body. Throughout Saturday night his wife did not rest very well, and the stroll was proposed by him, thinking that the morning air would do her good.

Mrs. Andrew Creveling bore testi-

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#### FREEDOM 'TILL COURT.

Jacob Evans Released on Surety in the Sum of \$2000

The first intimation made last week that counsel for Jacob Evans had made application to Hon. R. R. Little for a habeas corpus hearing brought with it lively anticipation of an interesting time, and when the Court House bell sounded at half past nine Saturday, announcing that the hour for the hearing was at hand, people flocked into the spacious interior until the room was nearly filled. Numbered among those who attended were people from different sections of the county and anxious to hear from the lips of one who swears that she knows the story of the awful crime. The evidence of Mrs. McHenry on Saturday was in the main corroboration of that recited by her before the Justice of the Peace, several days before. She reiterated how Evans had called at her home, threatened the life of her husband and how he proposed to do it. Her husband had arrived home from Jamison City about dusk on the night preceding the tragedy. They talked over the matter pertaining to the family and home until about nine thirty when they retired. She and the children occupied a room upstairs, while Mr. McHenry slept on the first floor. About one o'clock in the morning her husband called to her asking if she heard a noise at the barn. Neither knew the cause of it. The noise continued and Mr. McHenry acting on the impulse that their horses were in distress he secured the lantern and started for the barn. Shortly thereafter she heard the report of a gun and going down stairs and out into the yard she met her husband at the gate. Blood was flowing from a gun shoot wound over the heart. As he sank to the ground she hastened to administer to him and while she held his head in her lap, he said "Evans the dirty villain shot me, and he will do you injury if he fails to accomplish his purpose."

When asked in cross-examination, which was conducted by Hon. H. M. Hinckley, of Danville, why she did not warn her husband of Evans' threat, she said she did not think that he (Evans) meant it. She did not remonstrate with him, but simply told him that she did not want anything like that to occur around her house. After the commission of the murder she was in mortal fear of Evans, and for that reason did not expose what she knew of the case. The first she opened her mouth was on the fourth of July, when she told the story to Horace Eveland, a boarder at her house. She had borne it as long as she could and desired to unburden her conscience, no matter what the result might be. When asked the cause of the unfriendly feeling between her husband and Evans, and which, in her opinion, might furnish a motive for the crime, the witness said there were different things. One, she said, was a settlement, which they had after Evans had been discharged by Mr. McHenry, and another reason was that her husband believed Evans was too intimate with her. The witness was then asked if there were any grounds for that belief, but her counsel objected to the question, which was sustained by the Judge, and she did not answer.

Judge Hinckley conducted the cross-examination in the high, resonant voice of a man determined to abide by every word uttered. He accompanied his questions with energetic gestures and with an intonation that brought out every point he wished to make, and he made many, as the incessant murmurs of approval from

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#### ROYAL ARCANUM.

Bloomsburg Council of the Royal Arcanum had a very enjoyable meeting on Friday evening, and the attendance was large. Dr. Bouse, Deputy Grand Regent, was present on an official visit, and made an interesting and instructive address. Rev. Dr. Frysinger, member of Asbury Council, Baltimore, was also present as a visitor, and in response to a call he favored the council with some pleasant remarks. One of the pleasing features of the evening was the singing by the Glee Club, composed of nine members of the Order, Messrs. Yetter, Vost, F. B. Hartman, Bidleman, Barton, Vanderslice, Lynn, Eyer and Ent. They are all members of the Y. M. C. A. Choir, and their reputation as a musical organization extends far beyond the limits of Bloomsburg. Two new members were initiated, James Saltzer and Reber Mears, making the whole membership of the Council 109. Five new applications were presented. At the close of the meeting ice cream and cake were served, and a pleasant hour spent in a social way.

Bloomsburg Council has a high standing in the Order. Its members are among the leading business and professional men of the town, and its present prosperous condition is due largely to the personal interest and active work of Prof. G. E. Wilbur. As a token of appreciation of his splendid work, the council has decided to send him to the Pan-American Exposition at their expense.

The meeting adjourned at about 11 o'clock.

#### WENT TO SLEEP ON THE RAILROAD.

With his mind apparently filled with ideas of suicide, Frank Beers, keeper at the Rosemont Cemetery, walked out to Irondale Thursday afternoon, and after expressing his intention to end his days walked to a point on the Bloomsburg & Sullivan Railroad out beyond the Water Company's Works, and after draining a bottle which he had with him, stretched himself on the track with his neck on one of the rails and went to sleep. W. K. Pursel and Wesley Mordan had watched his maneuvers and knowing that there would be no train until the down passenger train in the evening, left him lie. When the shrill whistle of the locomotive sounded the two men hurried to the scene and carried him to a place of safety. There is no doubt in the minds of these gentlemen but what he fully intended to carry out his threat, as he was fast asleep and the train would have been down upon him in a few minutes. He was taken to his home on Center Street in the evening. There is no cause assigned and it is believed that while under the influence of liquor, of which he had been imbibing for several days previous, his mind became temporarily unbalanced.

#### Plating Works.

F. N. Turner's Plating Works are completed and ready for work. It has taken some time to get the proper machinery and properly adjust it. The works are equipped for doing gold, silver, nickel, and white metal plating, and a large number of orders have been booked. Mr. Turner is a thorough business man, and his new enterprise will no doubt be a success.

#### Paper Mill Sold.

Sheriff Knorr sold the plant of the Catawissa Fibre Company on Monday at the Court House. It was purchased by W. D. Beckley for \$56,000.00. He represents a syndicate who will organize a company and operate the plant on a large scale.

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#### Yes-Why Not?

Somewhere, in an old book, the name of which I have forgotten, and also that of the author or compiler; I came across a legend, that in the early days of the colony, a tribe of Indians or perhaps a mere predatory band, had their hunting grounds along the northern border, and occasionally came south in their excursion. There was some statement to the effect that the last chief of the band was known as O-M E-G A, and was frequently on the Indian paths that led from the North to West Branch, and was of course familiar with the creeks and mountains. Of his exploits or fights, or raids upon settlements I have no knowledge; but why should we not rescue him from oblivion, and call the lake you propose to make, Omega? Accent on the penultimate as in almost all Indian names.

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