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BLOODY FIGHT AT IOLA HOTEL.

Largely Attended Friday Night Dance Has Almost Fatal Termination.

FOX IN CRITICAL CONDITION

William Fox, a young man of Pine township, this county is in a precarious condition. He had a close call from death in a fight with Charles Stackhouse at Albert Dent's Iola Hotel Friday night, and his injuries may yet prove fatal.

From all the information that we have been able to gather, the fight was the result of the selection of Fox to be floor manager of the dance. Stackhouse had acted in that capacity at numerous preceding dances at the hotel, and the fact that he had been ignored on this occasion, it is said greatly aroused his displeasure. He started in the early part of the evening to pick a quarrel, but by the strenuous interference of some friends he was kept away from Fox. Finally they clashed, and the bystanders were powerless to separate them. Not until Fox was prone upon the floor with his throat slashed from ear to chin, and blood spurting from two other deep knife gashes, did the melee end, and only then by the interposition of some men who grabbed Stackhouse and carried him bodily from the place.

The room in which the fight occurred, it is said looked more like a slaughter shop than a dance hall. Blood covered the floor and walls, and those who sought to part the combatants, were literally drenched in the red fluid.

Dr. Senn of Millville, was summoned, to attend the injured man. He administered stimulants, and sewed up the wounds. Fox was removed to his home on Sunday. His condition is grave, and it is feared that blood poisoning will develop.

John Fox, father of the injured man, caused the arrest of Stackhouse yesterday. He was given a hearing before Justice of the Peace Eves and held in \$500 bail for his appearance at court.

William Chrisman Esq. was counsel for the prosecutor. The hearing was largely attended, the room being crowded.

AT THE CAR SHOPS.

Fifty Scenic Railway Cars Will be Constructed Here.

The local plant of the American Car & Foundry Company will build fifty Scenic Railway Cars to be used at Rocky Glenn, the popular summer resort near Scranton. The cars are to be furnished within ten weeks so that they will be ready for delivery at the opening of the season.

The Berwick shops have turned out the first lot under the order for 740 steel underframed box cars for the Pennsylvania R. R. One track of the shop is at work on this modern order while the other two are completing the Erie order of 1,000 cars. About 50 of these remain to be constructed, and next week the entire shop will be at work on the other order. The shop is running full handed and 20 to 25 cars are being turned out daily.

MRS. KIRKBY IMPROVING.

A few weeks ago Mrs. D. N. Kirkby of Newark, N. J., with her two youngest children, was the guest of the Misses Clark on Market street. Soon after her return home she was seized with illness which looked as though it might be typhoid fever, and it was therefore decided that she should go to St. Barnabas' Hospital in that city. It soon developed that an operation on the peritonum was necessary, and this was performed last week Wednesday. For several days her life hung on a thread, and then a turn for the better came, and we are glad to announce that word was received here on Tuesday that she is steadily improving and her ultimate recovery is expected. This will be very pleasant news for the many warm friends made here by Mr. and Mrs. Kirkby during their nine years residence, Mr. Kirkby being the rector of St. Paul's church.

VERDICT IN FAVOR OF B. A. GIDDING.

The Long Drawn Out Litigation Decided by the Jury On Tuesday.

Judge C. B. Staples Presided.

The long drawn out litigation between John R. and Louis J. Townsend and B. A. Gidding, growing out of the purchase by Messrs Townsend of what is known as the John K. Lockard building situate on the south west corner of Second and Center streets this town, from the Citizens National Bank of Freeland, Pa., was concluded before His Honor C. B. Staples of Stroudsburg, Pa., specially presiding in Court here on Tuesday, when the jury after a half hour's deliberation returned a verdict in favor of the defendant B. A. Gidding.

Representing the plaintiffs were John G. Harman Esq., Col. John G. Freeze and Hon. H. M. Hinckley while on the side of the defendant were James Scarlet Esq. and N. U. Funk Esq.

The plaintiffs' case was that inasmuch as Gidding's lease for the building was made after the date of the judgment under which the building was sold by sheriff Daniel Knorr to the Citizens National Bank of Freeland, that the lease by reason of said sale was invalidated and discontinued. This was the substance of Mr. Harman's outline to the jury for the plaintiff, and in support of this contention he offered in evidence the files in the proceedings and the deeds from Sheriff Knorr to the Citizens National Bank and the deed from the bank to John R. and Louis J. Townsend.

At this point counsel for the defendant, acting on the legal presumption that the Citizens National Bank in accepting rent under the terms of the old lease, had thereby renewed the same made an effort to have the Court take the case from the jury. This Judge Staples declined to do stating that it was for the jury to decide whether or not the lease had been affirmed.

The testimony for the defense was then taken up, John K. Lockard being the first witness called. He testified to having made a lease for the rental of his property with B. A. Gidding.

On the stand B. A. Gidding, the defendant, testified to having signed the lease made by Mr. Lockard. It was for a certain number of years, with the privilege of renewing. He knew of the sheriff sale, by which the Citizens National Bank became the owners of the building, but he had never received any notice to quit the premises. He spoke to Chas. Dusheck, a director of the Citizens National Bank, regarding his tenancy, and Mr. Dusheck referred him to Chas. W. Miller the Bank's attorney. Mr. Miller, he said told him to continue on as he had been doing under the terms of the old lease. Subsequently a few days later, Mr. Miller and Mr. Davis, cashier of the Bank came into the store to inspect the building, at which time he called their attention to the fact that the lease read that he was to pay the rent in advance, and that both Mr. Miller and Mr. Davis said they would never refuse money. Mr. Davis expressed a desire to see the lease and it was shown him. He said he also reminded them that he had expended considerable money on the building in the way of paying the taxes, light, heat and water bills, which amounts he deducted from the rent. Sometime later Mr. Miller refused to accept the rent stating that the building had been sold to John R. Townsend and Louis J. Townsend. Accompanied by a witness he went to Freeland and offered the rent to Cashier Davis who also refused to accept it, as did also Mr. Townsend to whom he offered the rent later. Each month the rent was refused until finally an agreement was reached that the rent was to be paid without prejudicing either's interest in the case.

Joe Gidding, the last witness for the defendant testified to having been in the store, heard Miller say that B. A. Gidding should continue on as under the old lease, and heard Mr. Davis read a part of the lease. In rebuttal to the foregoing, B.

"IF YOU WOULD BE WEALTHY, THINK OF SAVING AS WELL AS GETTING."

Ben Franklin.

It is easier to get FIVE dollars than save ONE, but wealth without Saving is impossible. Learning to spend less is more important than learning to earn more. Start now if only with one dollar, and watch it grow in the

Bloomsburg National Bank

A Sound, Conservative, Safe Institution.

A. Z. SCHOCH, President.

WM. H. HIDLAY, Cashier.

R. Davis, cashier of the Bank was called to the stand. He said that he had no recollection of having seen the lease held by Gidding. He did not remember of having himself told Gidding that he couldn't lease the building to him, but he thought that Mr. Miller had done so. The Bank, he said bought the building to get its money out of it, and not as an investment.

Mr. Miller testified that he had no recollection of seeing the lease at the time mentioned by Gidding. He said he told Gidding that J. R. and Louis J. Townsend had bought the building, and that he could make no lease with him, he could rent from month to month until such time as Mr. Townsend desired possession of the premises.

At the conclusion of the testimony James Scarlet argued the case for the defendant and Hon. H. M. Hinckley closed for the plaintiff. Judge Staples' charge was brief and impartial. He did not review the testimony. He carefully and lucidly explained the law, and said that it was for the jury to decide whether or not the rent had been accepted under the terms of the old lease. If so, and no notice had been given, then the old lease had been affirmed.

On the other hand if they believed that the notice had been served on B. A. Gidding, the lease had been nullified and the verdict should be for the plaintiff.

The jury took the case about half past eleven and after being out a half hour returned a verdict for B. A. Gidding.

Col. John G. Freeze immediately made a motion for a new trial.

Serious Affliction of R. H. Ringler.

Our esteemed townsman R. H. Ringler is critically ill at his home on West Street and grave fears are entertained for his recovery. He attended a secret society meeting Monday evening, and returned to his home about ten o'clock. Shortly thereafter, he was stricken with a severe stroke of paralysis, which affected his entire right side, and since which time he has been unable to talk.

Mr. Ringler has lived here for forty odd years, and is among our best known residents. He has served as Secretary of the Town Council, Justice of the Peace, and has been in various ways identified with the business life of the town.

His illness is a matter of sincere regret among his legion of friends, and all express a hope for his recovery.

A Reprieve For Mrs. Kate Edwards.

Mrs. Kate Edwards, who was to have been hanged in the Berks County jail to-day for the murder of her husband, together with Sam Greason, her accomplice in the crime, have been granted a reprieve of thirty days. The petition was considered by the State Board of Pardons at Harrisburg yesterday. After the continuance had been granted the Lieutenant Governor stated that the case would be disposed of finally next month and that the fate of the two will be settled once for all.

The Wheelmen will hold their first Minstrel rehearsal in the Club House this evening. It is earnestly desired that all those who have the success of the entertainment at heart, and particularly those who are going to take part will be on hand promptly at half past eight o'clock. Mr. Ben Gidding has very kindly permitted his piano to be moved from his residence to the Club House, and as it is the desire to put the show on before Easter the regular attendance at the rehearsals is most necessary.

A Bargain in Carpenter Aprons.

Worth 30 cents
Now 23 cents.

FOR SALE BY

J. G. Wells,

General Hardware

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

BISHOP AT ST. PAUL'S.

Rt. Rev. Ethelbert Talbot, Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, made his last official visit to St. Paul's Church on Sunday morning last. Nearly every seat in the church was occupied. A class of fifteen persons was confirmed, including the following:

John F. Splain, Mrs. J. F. Splain, Misses Lillie M. Splain, Fannie F. Moore, Mary G. Hudson, Martha A. Morgan, Mabel C. Kaji, Elsa V. Kaji, Elizabeth Myers, Laura T. Voris, Martha G. Kreamer, Flossie Edgar, Messrs. Albert L. Solleder, Frank Zarr, Wilbur C. Kreamer.

The Bishop's sermon was considered by many as the best one he has ever delivered here, and that is saying much, as he is considered one of the strongest pulpit orators among the Bishops. The large class presented was prepared through the efforts of the Rector, Rev. R. S. Nichols, on short notice, the Bishop having made the appointment only a few weeks ago. Among the number was a young lady whom Bishop Talbot baptized some years ago in Kansas.

After the service an opportunity was given the congregation to meet the Bishop in the Parish House, and many availed themselves of it. The Bishop visited St. John's Church, Catawissa, in the afternoon, and Christ Church, Berwick, in the evening.

Low Land Residents Fear a Break Up.

The Susquehanna River is frozen solidly to a depth of probably fifteen inches, and presents an appearance almost identical if not worse than it did just preceding the awful flood of last March. People residing on the low lands in close proximity to the stream are in a state of fear, as they realize that a continued rain or thaw would cause a repetition of last spring. They will hold themselves in readiness to get out at the quickest moment in the event of a sudden break-up.

Snow on 36 Days.

There have been 36 days this winter on which snow has fallen. They were distributed as follows: In November 5 days; in December 14; in January 14, and up to date in February 3. These 36 snowy days constituted 23 storms, 9 in December, 10 in January and four in the first six days of this month.

BEN GIDDING

OUR HATS IN SPRING SHAPES ARE IN

We have all the new colors and styles.

The Broadway Special at \$3.00 is the best on the market.

BEN GIDDING

Corner Main and Center Sts.

Come in and see us, we'll treat you right.

FEBRUARY SALE OF Carpets and Furniture.

Quality is just as important as price. Poorly made Furniture is dear at any price. We only sell such goods as we can guarantee, and you'll often find that our prices for this good kind are lower than some stores ask for the low grade kind that soon falls to pieces.

During February we will give a Discount of 10% on all Furniture.

-- CARPETS --

On carpets we will show you greater values than ever. You will have an opportunity to get good choice designs at low prices. It will pay you to watch this sale even if you do not use them until April.

A Discount of 10% on all Carpets During February.

THE LEADER STORE CO., LTD.

4TH AND MARKET STREETS.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.