THE CENTRE REPORTER,

FRED. KURTZ.....Editor.

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INIQUITY AT WASHINGTON.

A correspondent of the Sun draws a picture of the shame heaped upon the country by high officials at Washington, who disgrace the nation by the licentiousness they introduce into the departments, where females of doubtful character are employed as clerks and who owe their appointments to the influence of Senators and congressmen, whose mistresses they are. These are facts which all decent people should consider and denounce. This correspondent says many excellent ladies whom misfortune has overtaken accomplished, capable, and worthy to appear in any circle, are earning their bread by what may be called hard labor in the departments. Others equally respectable, the children or wives of gallant soldiers who fell in battle and others again no less meritorious maintain themselves in the same way. For certain duties they are better fitted than men and are worse paid. These classes have lost no esteem by the adversity which has compelled them to seek this mode of support at some cost of pride and former associations.

But an element has been brought in among these worthy women which is an outrage upon them, a disgrace to the public service, and a glaring scandal seen of all men. It is notorious that Senators, Representatives, and officials have imposed upon the departments loose characters who are utterly unfit for such employment and unworthy to mingle with the ladies who are contaminated and insulted by their presence. There is no use of mincing phrases about a palpable fact or attempting to extenuate it under the cover of mistakes accidentally made. Members of Congress have pensioned their mistresses by scores on the treasury and the same thing is true of many of the more important officers in the departments through whose agency appointments are made.

If the instances were rare some excuse might be pleaded, but when the proof that this evil has taken large proportions and demoralized every department, then it demands public criticism. The truth if fully told would astound the country, not only as to those who are most responsible for its spread, among whom figure a large number of the Christian statesmen. Notorious women occupy places of trust in many of the offices the heads of which aspire to moral position and figure as churchmen. Others less known but equally criminal are scattered through the bureaus by the influence of their "friends" in Congress or the favor of others having the ear of power.

THE LANDLORDS IN COUNCIL.

We noticed, in last weeks Reporter, a meeting of landlords at Tyrone. The Altoona Tribune, of 4th inst., furnishes further particulars as follows: "A meeting of landlords representing the counties of Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield, and possibly one or two others, was held at Tyrone, in the Ward House, on Monday. Mr. W. W. Coleman, of Lewistown, was elected President, and Mr. John F. Miller, of Huntingdon, Vice President. The fact that no official report of the proceedings had at the meeting was sent us for publication is prima facie evidence that the bonifaces did their work without the assistance of a Secretary. We learn from outside sources, however, that about a dozen landlords were in attendance.

The counties named are all embraced within the limits of the workings of the law commonly known as "local option," or in other words, the anti-license law, and the prime object of the meeting was to devise ways and means by which to make good the losses daily entailed upon the landlords by the recent absolute abatement of the whisky traffic. It was proposed that a uniform advance in the price of boarding be made, with a corresponding increase for transient custom; but, after consideration, the question was laid over for the present. Another object of this guild is understood to be undying hostility to any and all candidates who may run for office on the local option platform, or who is understood to be a local option man.—This is the third meeting which has been held by this association."

As all the above counties went heavily for local option, the landlords must develope remarkable tactics—better than last spring—if they wish to reverse the decision given at the polls at the late spring elections, and as it seems they desire to carry the question into politics, which party do they intend shall espouse their cause *per se?*

—The Constitutional Convention on Friday, defeated section thirty-six of the article on legislation by a vote of 44 yeas to 60 nays. The section rejected reads as follows:

SECTION 36. The sale of intoxicating liquors or mixtures containing the same for use as a beverage shall hereafter be prohibited. The Legislature shall within one year from the adoption of the Constitutition enact laws with adequate penalties for the enforcement of this provision.

A Missouri girl washed all day, made a supper off twelve boiled eggs, and then danced all night. The funeral procession was nearly a mile long.

"The Coolies Again,"—"Pig-tailed Johnny."—*Dem. Watchman.*

"Chinese Labor."—*Brown's Republican.*

In the last week's Dem. Watchman and Brown's Republican, we find a league formed by those editors to decapitate the poor Coolies that are coming to this country—and we have given the caption of each editor's article, and like Brown, we inquire, "What does it mean?" They run nearly the same language of denunciation, and declare war offensive and defensive against the "nasty coolies." This is a little ominous in these political antipodes. Brown becomes infatuated with an itinerant howler, named Fairbanks, who mounted a box at "Strychnine" corner, and howled for "well-paid labor and opposed Chinese labor," and informs his readers in his local columns that "men are working for $1 50 per day, at the car works—working in mud and water at that." Has Bellefonte imported Coolies to work at the car-works at $1 50 instead of $3 25? if so, no wonder the Watchman and Republican have got their dander up. But the Watchman, in this, as in every thing else, goes a step farther than the Republican, "is for cutting the Coolie's pig-tail" off, and not "letting his corpse be sent back to his native home for burial and thus stop the immigration." This humane method will fail, unless the "cutting off" is carried farther on. As for Brown, he would not give the true reason for the radical increase in population and its object. He supports the negro naturalization law to be found in the 15th amendment, and adopted by the radicals. But the Watchman, cute in most things, has not a word to say about the descendants of Ham, more ignorant, filthy, and debased than ever the Chinese were or are, and who choose to steal rather than work or learn any mechanical trade; the "cutting off a pig-tail," or any other tail, will not help the matter—the radicals have taken care of that in the 15th amendment, which declares, "The rights of citizens of the United States *to vote* shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State, on account of *race, colar,* or previous condition of servitude."

The Chinamen are safe under this amendment, and it is all for Buncombe to look to the legislature or congress to repeal the constitution—all officials must swear to support the constitution of the United States, and if the Watchman and Republican are tired of Coolies, let them advocate the striking out of the 15th amendment in the manner pointed out by the Constitution—the only way to get clear of the Coolies. But the radicals will not do that.

The Philadelphia Age, of 12th, gives a glowing account of the workings of Denver & Rio Grand Narrow Gauge railroad of which over 100 miles have been in successful operation for some; time as the subject of narrow gauge may be of some little interest to some readers in these parts, we make the following extract from the article of the Age.

The road has a gauge of three feet instead of four feet eight and a half inches, and from this cause there has been a saving of thirty-seven and a half per cent. in the first cost of construction, a most important item to the stockholders. A narrow gauge road will do all the business required, and at the same time return a larger per cent. of profit per mile than a broad gauge road. In April, 1873, the expenses of a business at the rate of about $4,000 per mile per annum, was about fifty per cent. of the earnings which with ordinary labor at two dollars per day, all skilled labor very high, supplies costly because of the remoteness from Eastern markets gradients seventy-five feet per mile, curves six degrees per hundred feet, a new road bed and small total business, must be considered as satisfactory. During the first year after its opening the expenses on the Kansas Pacific Railway were seventy-nine and a half per cent. of its gross earnings. The rates charged by the company are about the same as those in use on most of the Denver Pacific. At these rates it is believed the present rolling stock is capable of earning a yearly revenue of $756,000 on the main line of one hundred and eighteen miles, which increase will give a great reduction in the petcentage of expenses.

How cautious one should be in playing a trick or joke, and the serious results that often follow, is again witnessed by the following: A man named Anderson, living in DeKalb county, while lying at night to frighten the tenant on his brother's farm, was shot and killed by his brother. The brother is frantic with grief.

The Supreme Court at Washington has just rendered a decision upon a question under the Confiscation Act not heretofore tried. A lawyer of this District joined the Rebellion early in the war. His property was confiscated and sold for $20,000. Upon his return, the person who had purchased it paid the former owner $10,000 additional and received a deed in fee simple. A short time since the first owner died and his heirs brought suit to recover the property holding that the Confiscation act deprived the first owner of all legal right to the property during his life and consequently he had no power to sell it or give a deed. The court held that the first owner had a legal right during his life to dispose of the reversionary interest and consequently, the sale in the present case was valid, and his heirs have no claim upon the property.

Horrible Deed of a Drunkard—Wife and Children Killed.

Hamilton, Ontario June 12.—This morning a man named Fields attempted to split open the head of his wife with an axe. She escaped from the house but not before receiving a cut which will probably prove fatal. Fields then deliberately cut the throats of his two children aged three and five years. Fields had been drinking hard for some time.

WAIT FOR THE WAGON:

AN ILLUSTRATION WORTH CONSIDERING

[*From the New York Sun.*]

The Treasury Department in Washington keeps two wagons to carry its mails and other packages in that city. One of these is a two-horse office wagon and the other a one-horse mail wagon. Yet it appears from the report made by the Superintendent of the Treasury Building on February 3, 1873, and published in House Executive Document No. 182, that "the care of horses for mail and office wagons and repairs of wagons and harness" for this same department cost the Government during the twelve months of the last fiscal year exactly $11,687.46. A considerable portion of this money was expended for repairs, and the account of this expenditure from July 31, 1871, to June 29, 1872 is set forth in the following table, which we take from the same official document:

THE COST OF REPAIRING TWO WAGONS.

1871.		
July 31	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	$91 00
Aug. 31	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	19 50
Oct 2	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	87 75
Nov. 4	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	94 00
Nov. 29	—J. McDremot & Bro repairing wagons	173 25
Dec. 16	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	53 75
1872		
Feb. 1	—J. McDermot & Bro repairing wagons	70 00
Mar. 2	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	200 00
April. 1	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	22 00
April 1	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagous	17 00
Ap'l 29	—J, McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	688 25
May 31	—J, McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	228 00
June 28	—J. McDermot & Bro, repairing wagons	883 75
June 29	—A. J. Joyce & Bro repairing wagons	66 93
Total		$2,699.93

The repairs of harness for these two wagons also cost the neat little sum of $1,131.88, On one single day June 29, 1872 these repairs amounted to $384.73; and besides the repairs of the wagon specified in the above table the Superintendent likewise reports that the repairs of carriages—observe this is in addition to the two wagons—cost in that year $1,176 70.

The two wagons above mentioned, which cost $2 700 a year for repairs, are employed not more than two hours a day in carrying light loads. These loads are made up of mail matter and packages of little weight. All the heavy freight of the Treasury Department is otherwise provided for. The coal and wood are delivered by the contractors. So are the stationery and blank books; and the wagons of the Goverment Printing Office deliver at the department all the blank forms and other printed matter that are required from that establishment. The express companies receive and deliver all their freight at the department: and the local express companies are employed when heavy burdens have to be taken about the city. As the report of the Superintendent shows, there was paid out of the contingent fund to private parties for hauling between July 1, 1871 and June 30, 1871 the sum of $1,295 74. This would seem to leave but little work to be done by the two wagons with their three horses and yet, as this official report declares they cost nearly $1,000 a month to keep runing and $225 a month for repairs alone!

Along with these pleasant expenditures under this model and high-toned Administration, a large stable is maintained at the Treasury Department a little south of the main edifice and in this stable some twenty or thirty horses belonging to the department but not employed for mail or office work are kept at the public expense, under the oversight of a Superintendent of Stables and an assistant whose salaries are reported as amounting to $5,297 54 a year. In these stables with such competent and high-priced care there are also from fifteen to twenty handsome carriages trotting wagons and the like; and every fine afternoon the heads of bureaux and favorite clerks in the Secretary's office appear upon the avenue with superd turnouts thus provided. Of these carrirges five are said to be set apart for the special use for the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, his assistant, and his female private secretary. The hostlers drivers and footmen who perform their part in this elegant display are duly borne on the rolls of the Treasury Department and are paid as messengers and laborers; all of them of course being appointed by competitive examination under the latest and best rules of civil service reform.

Thus it is that wherever this Administration is touched with the scalpel of honest analysis flagrant corruption unblushing public robbery and reckless immorality are demonstrated. Such is Grantism such is the present choice of the once pure and noble Republican party.

JUSTICE BAFFLED ONCEMORE

Mr. Edward S. Stokes, "the gentlemanly and popular murderer," is to have a new trial. If ever there was clear and unmistakeable mockery of justice, it is embodied in the proceedings of the New York judiciary with reference to this celebrated case. Though the Court of Appeals which yesterday distinguished itself by granting the interesting prisoner another chance for his life were to present a string of technical reasons twice as long as that which it does present the public would still entertain this opinion—and public estimate in matters so easily understood is usually very correct. The points assigned as the basis for the decision will be found in another column. They are trivial enough any one may perceive at a glance; but when a man is drowning he will grasp readily at a straw and that Stokes grasped at and caught singular to say has carried him at least temporarily, out the shadow of Death.

CAPT. JACK'S DEFENSE.

Boyle's Camp, June 8—3 p. m.—An interview between Gen Davis, Capt Jack, and Schonchin has just terminated. The Modoc Chief says that he was incited to his cruel warfare by Allen David Chief of the Klamaths. He also denied having killed Gen. Canby and laid the blame on his boys. Schonchin told the same story.

THE CARLISTS AGAIN DEFEATED.

Bayonne, June 15.—It is reported that General Nouvillas has defeated the Carlists under Dorocegarray near Villares. Three hundred insurgents were killed and wounded and seven hundred taken prisoners.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, June 9.—The convention met at half past nine o'clock this morning, President Meredith in the chair.

The president presented a communication from the Church of God relative to the sale of intoxicating liquors, which was read and tabled.

The convention then, on motion, proceeded to consider the article reported by the committee on legislature.

The first section, vesting the legislative power in a general assembly, to consist of a senate and house of representatives, was agreed to.

The second section, providing for the election of members every two years, and the filling of vacancies in either house, was adopted after several efforts to amend by making their election annual.

The third and fourth sections, fixing the term of senators at four years, were agreed to without debate

The fifth section provides for the time when the general assembly shall meet, it being the first Tuesday of January succeeding the adoption of this constitution, and at the same hour on the first Tuesday of January every two years thereafter, unless convened by the governor, and was adopted.

Sections six and seven were consolidated and refer to the qualifications necessary to eligibility for senators and representatives, and the section was agreed to.

Sec. 8. No senator or representative shall during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this commonwealth which shall have been created or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such time, and no member of congress or other person holding any office (except of attorney at law and in the militia) under the United States or this commonwealth shall be a member of either house during his continuance in congress or in office. Agreed to.

The 9th section prohibits the election of any person to the general assembly who has been convicted of bribery, perjury or any other infamous crime. Adopted.

Sections 10 and 11 prescribe the oath of office to be taken by the members and the manner in which it is to be administered, together with the penalties impending over those who shall decline to take the oath, or shall be convicted of having sworn falsely. Agreed to.

Sections 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 provide for the compensation of members, and prohibit compensation for services as members of committees; the duties of the lieutenant governor; fix the quorom at a majority of each house, and leave it with each house to determine its own rules; and require that the doors of each house and of committees of the whole shall be open, unless when the business is such as should be kept secret.

Sections 17 and 18, that neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days; and that members, except for treason, felony, or violation of their oath of office, shall be free from arrest during their attendance upon the sessions of the general assembly, were adopted.

The third paragraph on the Legislature, was then adopted—ayes, 47; nays 28—and the substitute entire as follows:

The state shall be divided into fifty senatorial districts, of compact and contiguous territory, as equal in population as possible; and each district shall be entitled to two or more members by possessing a population exceeding one senatorial ratio and three-fifths of a second ratio; and no county or city shall be entitled to more than one-sixth of the whole number of members.

The house of representatives shall consist of not less than 150 members, to be apportioned and distributed to the different counties in proportion to the population on a ratio of 25,000 inhabitants to each member, except that no county shall have less than one member and the city of Philadelphia or any county having an excess of three-fifths of said ratio over one or more ratios shall be entitled to an additional member in case the number of 150 members is not reached by the above apportionment, and counties having the largest surplus over one or more ratios shall be entitled to one additional member until the number of 150 members is arrived at.

As soon as this constitution is adopted the legislature shall apportion the state in accordance with the provisions of the two proceeding sections. Counties and the city of Philadelphia entitled to more than one member shall be divided into single districts of compact and contiguous territory, as nearly in population as possible; but no township or ward, except in the city of Philadelphia, shall be divided in the formation of a district: *Provided*, That in making such apportionment for the house of representatives in the year 1881, and every ten years thereafter, there shall be added to the ratio five hundred for each increase of seventy-five thousand inhabitants.

A Coal Mine Horror.

EXPLOSION NEAR SHAMOKIN.

Eight Dead Bodies Found.

Shamokin, Pa., June 10.—This afternoon an explosion occurred in the Henry Clay colliery, operated by the Philadelphia and Reading coal and iron company, near this place. The colliery had not been inspected for some time, but was always considered safe.

Conrad Drumheiser, inside boss, went into the old working, on the water level, when an explosion immediately followed, it is supposed, by fire damp being fired, which communicated with the airways from the water level into the slope below, where the men worked.

The men in this section of the coal region, not being accustomed to black damp, thought it was powder that had been set on fire. They remained in the slope until overcome with black damp, and starting to come up met a body of after damp and fell senseless and smothering. The more stronger men managed to get out and giving the alarm the others followed, and upon reaching the top of the slope fell, being overcome.

John Hayes, outside boss, hearing the alarm, immediately went to their rescue, After proceeding about 500 yards he fell face downward in a pool of water and was drowned. Enoch Magenski was found drowned by his side.

Up to ten o'clock p. m. ten dead miners have been taken out. Many of the men came from the surrounding mines to render assistance.

The excitement was intense, wives and children rushing to the scene of the disaster finding husbands and brothers dead or gasping for breath, while others were eagerly watching the arrival of friends on the slope wagons from below.

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR LIFE. STOCKES GRANTED A NEW TRIAL—THE REASONS THEREFOR.

Albany June 10.—The Court of Appeals were unanimous in their opinion granting Stokes a new trial. There are two opinions written. The charge is held to be erroneous on the point that the law presumes murder from the fact of killing and calls on the prisoner to mitigate or justify. Also that there were errors in excluding the proof of the threats by the deceased to kill the prisoner also errors in permitting Mrs. *Morse* to contradict Jennie Turner in a collateral matter which was called out in the cross-examination of Jennie, namely: As to whether she left *Mrs.* Morse against her wish and because the detectives were said to be after her soon after the homicide. There were other points discussed but these are the principal ones.

A MONSTROUS CONFESSION.

JOSEPH WALTZ, THE MURDERER OF THE SCISSORS GRINDER.

A Very Remarkable Document Written by the Murderer—Striving to Excel as a Criminal—A Study for the Metaphysicians.

CATSKILL, N. Y., June 7.—On the night of May 1, Harmon Holcher, a scissors grinder, of Albany, was murdered near this city. About the 15th ult., Joseph Waltz was arrested, charged with the crime. He is a tall, muscular youth of about 23 years. He has long, light hair, slight beard and whiskers of the same color, and clear blue eyes. He has been indicted by the Grand Jury, and his trial has been set for the December term. The following is a copy of the confession, written by himself:

JOSEPH WALTZ TO THE PUBLIC.

HOUSE OF BONDAGE, May 23, 1873.

MY DEAR OFFENDED AND EXCITED FRIENDS: I beg leave to have some reconciliation with you in order that you may no longer be in any doubt of my truthfulness in regard to the terrible, shocking, and infamous deeds that I was forced by some mysterious power to do. You were already informed of the principal and most important causes of all this agitation; but it was an impossibility for me or any one else to explain to you at that time, the minute, and at the same time most indispensible details.

One day in January last it seemed to me that there were a great many people on earth who were constantly risking their life and reputation in swindling, robbing, and deceiving their fellow-creatures, for various reasons and causes. Since that day it seemed to me as if something had planted itself in my mind, that kept urging forward to perform some grand, heroic, and enterprising feat, whether good or bad I could not say.

I tried to forget it, but it was ever before me. I began to lose much interest in my daily occupation, and the great appetite for learning, and knowledge, and wisdom, which I had was also lessened. My mind seemed to be clear, and the main object to which it was turned was to something wholly out of the common course. About two days after this I could no longer do without causing some commotion or excitement. That very night of the third day I began my first robbery!

I arose from my bed at about 1 o'clock, A. M. and went out of doors. It was warm, but very windy. I went to my room again, but could not think of going to bed; I wanted very much to rouse up something or somebody; when suddenly the thought came to surprise and cause trouble to some one. I thought of going over to the house of my nearest neighbor, Jas. B. Goetchius, and throw large stones at the door of his house and windows; when another thought flashed across me, to go to the toll gate, about half a mile off, and do something of the kind there.

WALTZ'S FIRST ROBBERY.

I put on my boots, and started for the latter in all haste. As I arrived near the place, I began to lose much of my courage, and sat down on a snowbank for some time thinking. I was about to get up and go home, and leave all in peace, when I thought of the red school house a short distance further off; my courage returned, and I was there in a few minutes. I entered a window at the east side, and found the stove red hot and the room very warm; this frightened me, thinking there might be some one dwelling in the school house. However, I entered at last, and what I did there you all know. I had just the same books at home, and could have no use for them. The reason that I took them was simply to rouse and excite the pupils and teacher.

Seeing all remain quiet, I did the same deed over again a short time after, this time leaving a note there containing remarks such as threatening their life, and using very profane language. Peace still continued, and I was not satisfied. This yearning and tempting was incessant. About a month afterward I started on another burglarious expedition. This was the Jefferson Sunday School. I entered it forcing open a blind on the south side, about 2 o'clock A. M. By this time I began to feel some sorrow for these cruel acts, and began to read some of the most pious and and best of the library books I had thus obtained by theft. They were, indeed, very good books; and having read the first one through, I began to realize and perceive my great wickedness. I was much comforted, and read several more with good result. But I could not feel easy. I next broke open and robbed the school house on the Athens road and the one at Leeds. After that I wanted to repent, and was about to confess my crimes to the Rev. Father O'Driscoll and Mr. A. M. Osborn, a Catskill lawyer, when I saw the following glowing notice, in the Catskill Recorder, which was probably the reason that I lost all desire to make an open confession of my guilt, for it was stated in such a singular and inciting manner that it seemed to relieve me of my sorrow and distress and rouse up the old desire to do further mischief:

"The school house in Leeds was broken open on Tuesday night, and in the morning the contents of the desks, the furniture, maps, &c., were found piled promiscuously on the floor. A letter was left stating the determination to commit depredations—said they had commenced at the small school house on the Athens road (the one that was burned last night)—and that they were on their way West, &c. They claim to be in the service of Belial—and no doubt are right here."

As a counter-irritant I then read the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth chapters of St. Matthew, and retired to my night's rest, much relieved of my uneasiness; but my great sins could never be hidden or dropped from my mind, and a spark of this intense desire to perform some unnatural exploit was still smouldering in my brains.

THE SCISSOR GRINDER.

About the last of April we were visited by an old friend of ours from Albany, who went about sometimes in the spring as a scissors grinder. He was an honest, upright man, respected by all who knew him. We gladly invited him on this evening to supper, and that he could pass the night with us. After supper we had kept up a pleasant and delightful conversation with each other, as is usually the case with true friends that have not seen each other for a long time; and in this way was that evening passed.

We showed our friend on a sofa, on which were placed some quilts and blankets for a covering. My parents then retired up stairs. I was now the only one up, and sat down by the table and read for about half an hour, when I felt sleepy and was about to enter my room, when suddenly I was aroused from all sleepiness by this strong sensation in my mind to execute some uncommon or unnatural and inhuman juggle. The power was much stronger and more sudden than I had ever experienced it before. I wanted to relieve myself of it, but I was utterly helpless. I began to become very hot, my ears were wringing, and my heart beat very loud and quick for a short time, and the hair on my head seemed to be standing upright. All this lasted hardly a minute, when I began to become cool again, and everything was very quiet. I took up a small Testament and began to read. I had scarcely finished the first verse when some violent and electric force swept past my face. It was like a flash of lightning, if it could have been directly before my eyes, and without any noise. I dropped my arm and book with a loud clap on the little table before me. I began to shake and tremble in every limb. Great fear seized me for a little while, after which everything seemed to run into my brains. I sat a few moments on my bed in great confusion. Then I went out of doors, lamp in hand, and searched for an axe or hatchet, and went back into my room. I could think of nothing but of

STRIKING SOME ONE ON THE HEAD.

I pressed my forehead against a pane of glass, thinking the sudden cold would have some effect in producing a different sensation, but all in vain. I turned down the lamp very low, took up the hatchet and entered the room of my friend, the scissors grinder, who was sleeping soundly. I placed the lamp on the floor directly below his head. I then cautiously bent over him to see in what position his head lay. I took the hatchet and raised it up to the height of the ceiling.

I was about to turn away and leave the man in peace, when I was again seized by the demon, and was forced to raise the hatchet and give the fatal blow; but it seemed as if the strength and force of the blow that I was about to implant in the head of the peaceful sleeper had all entered into the handle of the hatchet. I withheld the blow, took up the lamp and hatchet and went back to my own room, greatly troubled in mind and spirit. I was about to give a loud scream, but I had no strength for it. I sat there as helpless as a babe, when all at once a painful thrill or sting pierced my heart and brains and roused me up like a maniac. I took the lamp and hatchet up once more and entered the room of the sleeping man, placing the lamp where I did before and raising the hatchet quickly, but my heart failed me. My forehead became wet with perspiration and I stood there in delirium swinging the hatchet up and down above the head of the man, when at length I struck the man on the forehead! but the blow seemed to have no force as I dealt it. He breathed with a deep voice, and doubling of its fatality I struck him twice with the cutting part of the hatchet, not knowing for certain where I hit him, and sank fainting and senseless on the floor. When consciousness returned and I beheld the dire scene, the mangled body, the pools of blood, and the awful thought of murder, I sank back again with a feeling of pain and horror. I then wanted to go off and cast myself into a bottomless gulf and bury myself out of sight of the world. With these thoughts I walked back and forth in the room in a very confused or deranged manner for some time; then with a fierce and energetic perception in mind and body, I went to the dismal room, took up the corpse, carried it out and laid it down beside a low stone fence. I then wrapped the body in the blanket, and laid many small flat stones around to conceal it, lisped a short prayer, and departed to the house. There I began to clear off all traces of blood, and to carry the boots, coat, hat, &c., off under the barn. The machine I also carried off and placed behind a fence in the bushes, and covered it up with brush and stones. I then went to bed, but in five minutes my parents came down, and began their work as usual. I got up again, and went to the barn to help feed the stock, when father asked me what it was he heard some time in the night, as if some one were gurgling or breathing with something in the throat.

I told him that I heard it, too, but that I could not account for it, and it was probably the habit of this man to do something of the kind, as he told us the previous evening of his having a bad cold. And now the thought came to me of my wicked lie and of having thus deceived my good, honest father.

The scissor grinder was soon missed, and we found faint traces of blood about the floor and on one of the blankets, when my parents became greatly excited, and when they found the blankets, quilt and pillow missing, they were astonished beyond measure. They looked at me and found me in equal surprise. They then thought that this bad man had taken the quilts and made off with them. Father went in search of him along the road toward Athens, but he could find no trace or vestige. He had too much work to do to spend any more time searching for him or the things. Father went to see the constable. But all remained quiet, and I began to think myself clear of all suspicion.

That night I began digging a grave in such a manner and on such a place that it would be impossible to find it again. I carried the corpse to it on a wheelbarrow. Having laid it carefully in and wrapped it in the blanket, I knelt at the end of the grave and prayed for an hour and a half to God for the protection and repose of the soul of my friend whom I had thus caused to leave this world unprepared and without a last look or parting word to his bereaved and afflicted wife, and children, and friends. This being done I covered up the remains of my friend in great sorrow, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and proceeded to the house in a very broken-hearted condition. I then locked every thing up in a trunk and went up to the barn again, took up the clothes and carried them down the lot and hid them. What I did then I do not to this day know, for the sun was shining and I found myself sitting at the foot of the grave of my departed friend.

When the long and tedious day drew close I wrote a letter by the influence of the same visionary agent, and was astonished, not a little, when I read it to myself. I then tried to copy it on a separate paper, but when I had it finished I dropped to the floor with a loud ringing and sibilant sound in my head, where I must have been during the night, for in the morning I found the little table upset against the bed and myself leaning against the door with a chair over me! When I endeavored to get up I could hardly bend a finger or limb, being as rigid and inflexible as death. Thus I lay helpless until the fiery thought returned to preform the grand imposing, or majestic work, moral or tragic! Before this thought every morbid feeling fled.

My hands became red as fire, and with some pain in straightening my arms and back I arose. I felt after I had killed the man that it was not the great deed I wanted to do, for I was greatly disgusted and terror-stricken and overcome with sorrow and greif for having caused the untimely death of my friend! and had lost all thoughts and desires of ever doing so awful and terrible a thing! After this I passed many nights sitting on the grave, for my sorrow became so great, the burden of sins so heavy, and my wounded spirit so restless, that I did not know half the time what I was about. I often walked off a little way, and then turned suddenly around and went back again to the spot, and wanted to do something, but never could think what.

In about two weeks the scissor grinder's wife accompanied by a youth, came to our house to inquire for him. I hurried to the barn and hid myself, for I could not appear before them in such a broken-hearted condition. The following night when all was quiet, I took everything in my trunk which belonged to the lost man, and hid them at diverse places. The books, &c., I placed in boxes, and buried them also. A day or two after this the search began. The officers, D. P. Bennett, Charles Ernst, and others, finding the floor and sofas stained with blood, immediately suspected me of having killed the man. I wanted to "own up," and tell them the whole truth on the spot, but I had not the courage. I began to defend myself by telling dreadful lies, that gave me such a pain within that I came near fainting several times. From this time I did nothing but lie to the highest officer down to the truest friend. Oh! the dreadful sting my soul received as I again denied my guilt before the venerable Justice! My dear, innocent father was taken with me, for the first time in all our life, into bondage. I requested of Sheriff D. P. Bennett and J. H. Meech the permission and liberty of going to the farm accompanied by my father, promising them that I would throw the full light into the whole mystery, but they coldly refused to do anything of the kind, telling me that such a thing was not allowed. Afterward they let me go, but I revealed nothing at that time; but I have now told you, my friends of this whole mournful event. And I am, by the grace of my heavenly Father, that I received through the mercy of His only begotten Son, Our Lord and Saivour Jesus Christ, prepared to die, and prepared to live in blessed peace. JOSEPH WALZ.

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