

## DEATH'S MESSENGER

The Mysterious Stranger Who  
Summoned Dr. Cronin

ON THE FATAL NIGHT OF MAY 4.

**Dr. Egbert's Testimony Establishes the Fact That the Doctor Was Killed Soon After Supper—Condition of the Body. An Alleged Sweeping Confession by Martin Burke.**

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—Judge McConnell's court room was crowded with interested spectators when the trial of the celebrated Cronin case formally began. State's Attorney Longenecker at once began his address to the jury, which was continued at great length amid frequent interruptions and exceptions by the defense. He reviewed the difficulties encountered in selecting a jury and expatiated upon the value of direct and circumstantial evidence.

### To Prove a Conspiracy.

The speaker then spoke of the disappearance of Dr. Cronin and the finding of the body eighteen days afterwards, and the state proposed to prove it a murder as the result of a conspiracy. He dwelt upon the alleged motives of the crime and severely scored the Clan-na-Gael organization. He went over the whole story of the conception and execution of the plot, which has so often been told.

In his peroration he said that if after hearing the evidence the jury had the slightest doubt of the guilt of the prisoners they should give them their freedom, but if, on the other hand, they were satisfied that they were the murderers, then he should demand that the highest penalty of the law be inflicted.

Counsel for defendants waived their opening speeches and the examination of witnesses was commenced without delay.

### CRONIN'S STOMACH.

**Its Contents Exhibited in Court Create a Sensation.**

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Whatever doubts had existed regarding the fact that Dr. Cronin was killed within a short time after leaving the Conklin residence were set at rest when Dr. Egbert produced a number of jars containing the contents of the stomach of the murdered man in court. The food, he said, had scarcely commenced to digest, and had been taken in the stomach less than three hours before death.

The jury glanced at the contents of the jars, while the people in the court room craned their necks to get a look at the receptacles.

The witness went on to minutely describe the condition of the body. All the internal organs were in excellent condition and there was not the slightest evidence of disease, internal or external, although the brain and its covering were terribly decomposed. There was a wound two inches long and one-half inch wide in the corner of the left eye, while near by the skull was again fractured and a small portion clipped away. Near the left temple was a wound two inches long and extending to the skull. Back of this was another almost the same size, while back of the left ear was a ragged wound that joined the other two. On the left of the back of the head was another ugly wound two and one-quarter inches long and a fourth inch wide, in the center of which was a flap of the skin of the scalp. This had been beaten into the thin layer of flesh on the skull by the force of the blow and was attached to the remaining skin at the upper portion of the wound. The lungs were free from water despite the fact that the head was below the surface when found, and, as the physician testified in the most emphatic manner, there was not the shadow of doubt that Dr. Cronin's death was caused by the wounds he received.

### EVERYTHING LAID BARE.

**An Alleged Confession by Burke While in the Winnipeg Jail.**

WINNIPEG, Oct. 27.—For some weeks it has been rumored that during his incarceration here Burke confided particulars of the Cronin murder to his three fellow prisoners, T. Miller, E. Heffer and "Slick American" Gillette, the last of whom is awaiting trial for forgery. It is said that Gillette has informed his lawyer that Burke admitted witnessing the murder, although not a participant.

Heffer, who has been released, is said to have stated to a police official that Burke had told him who had proposed him as a member of camp No. 20, who ordered the execution, who were present at the Carlson cottage, when the murder was committed, how the body was disposed of, who gave him money with which to get out of Chicago—in fact everything that the police and press of Chicago have been trying to find out for the past six months.

### HE TOOK IT BACK.

**Judge McConnell Reverses an Erroneous Ruling.**

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—The attempt of the defense in the Cronin case to shut out witnesses who have read the newspaper accounts of the great crime and the testimony of the witnesses so far given was not successful, though the attorney for the defendants came dangerously near scoring a victory. Had the judge allowed his first ruling to stand the case of the state would have been knocked in the head and the efforts of the prosecution set at naught.

A physician—Dr. D. G. Moore—was called to the stand to give evidence regarding the cause of death, he having been present at the autopsy. He corroborated the testimony of Drs. Egbert and Perkins to the effect that death was the result of concussion of the brain.

There is a rule to the effect that witnesses be excluded from the court room while other witnesses are testifying, it being deemed best that the testimony of one witness be not influenced in any way by the testimony of another. Therefore, when Mr. Forrest asked Dr. Moore if he had read the testimony of Drs. Egbert and Perkins and received an affirmative answer he at once spoke up and said:

"I move, your honor, that the entire testimony of Dr. Moore be stricken from the record."

The state's counsel was very much amused at this effrontery and appeared to enjoy the joke immensely, but not so with the court, for he quietly said, "Let the testimony be stricken from the docket."

The faces of the prisoners became radiant. If this ruling should stand they could snap their fingers at the judge and and jury and speedily walk out of jail.

This ruling would bar out every witness the state had on its list, with one or two exceptions, as they can all read. Judge Longenecker got black in the face and Lawyer Mills grew white with apprehension. Lawyer Hynes was the only one with self possession enough to grasp the situation, for he at once jumped to his feet, and, with his voice hoarse with passion, roared:

"If such a ruling is to obtain, your honor, we might as well stop the case now."

Lawyer Forest eyed the speaker quizzically and seemed comfortable. The case was virtually won. Then Lawyer Mills found his tongue and fairly astonished the court with his eloquence.

Judge McConnell, evidently appreciating the fact that he had made a mistake, seemed rather uneasy while the attorney was talking, but waited patiently until he got through. Then he said, in slow and measured tones—

"My order was in accordance with the precedence of times when newspapers were not so enterprising and not so widely circulated as now. I see the precedent must not be followed, and I will permit the evidence to go in."

It was not a graceful backdown, but it was the best that could be done under the circumstances. The state's representative breathed easier, and Mr. Forrest's smile disappeared. The prisoners settled back in their chairs with the old resigned and hard look upon their faces, and the spectators gave vent to an audible sigh.

Patrick Dinan testified to the story which has so often been told and published about the hiring of the horse and carriage which conveyed Dr. Cronin to the Carlson cottage.

### MRS. CONKLIN TESTIFIES.

**She Relates the Particulars of the Last Call for the Doctor.**

CHICAGO, Oct. 29.—The first witness called at the opening of Judge McConnell's court was the brother of Dr. Cronin, but that gentleman being absent Napier Moreland, an employe of Dinan's livery stable, was called. He testified as to the facts of the hiring of the white horse on the evening of the 4th of May, when Dr. Cronin was killed.

Mrs. Conklin, at whose house Dr. Cronin last lived, was the next witness. She said that at 7:30 p. m. on May 4 a stranger, who seemed nervous and excited, rang the door bell and when she opened the door inquired for Dr. Cronin. He seemed very reluctant to enter, but finally did so when told the doctor was engaged with other patients. The stranger then took a seat in the waiting room. When Dr. Cronin came out of his office the man advanced and said: "Dr. Cronin, you are wanted to attend a man who has been hurt at O'Sullivan's ice office."

The doctor made a remark which I did not hear. At that moment the man drew a card from his pocket and presented to the doctor. Dr. Cronin took the card and said: "Oh, yes; what is the nature of the accident?"

He said: "A man has been run over by a wagon."

The doctor said: "I will be with you soon," or something to that effect. The two went hurriedly out of the house as fast as they could and did not even shut the door. I heard them running down the stairs.

### Mr. Blaine's Secret.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—The World publishes what purports to be an interview with the physicians in Florence and Milan who attended Mr. Blaine during his illness there two years ago. They say that he was suffering from partial paralysis contracted in the St. Gothard tunnel and hypochondria induced by his condition. He wrote his famous Florence letter declining to be a candidate for president by the advice of Dr. Baldwin, an Anglo-American physician in that city. Dr. Baldwin says it was a case of life or death at that time, but that he believes that Mr. Blaine has now fully recovered.

### A Battle with Outlaws.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 28.—Sheriff Morris, of Blount county, with a posse of forty men, surrounded Rube Burrows, the train robber and outlaw and one member of his gang. A pitched battle followed in which several hundred shots were fired. Deputy Sheriff's Henry Arderton and Penwood Ward were killed and Deputy James Herron was badly wounded. Five other deputies received slight flesh wounds. The outlaws, having shot a gap in the line, rushed through and escaped, the posse being too completely demoralized to attempt pursuit.

### New York Has a Million.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—Among the subscriptions to the world's fair fund were the following: William Steinway, \$50,000; Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad company, \$50,000; Eugene Kelly, \$25,000; J. J. Astor, \$25,000; Long Island Railroad company, \$25,000; J. C. Johnston & Co., \$10,000; Fifth Avenue hotel, \$10,000. The total subscription, \$1,163,763.

### Another Big Railroad Deal.

BOSTON, Oct. 29.—The Boston news bureau says: The Union Pacific-Northwestern Traffic alliance may hasten the consummation of a yet greater railroad alliance between the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago, Burlington and Northern and the Manitoba, west of Chicago, with the Pennsylvania east of Chicago.

### SHH Held as Tascott.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 29.—The police still have possession of the man A. Sutherland, supposed to be William B. Tascott, the murderer of Amos J. Snell, the Chicago millionaire, and although he has not yet been identified by the Chicago authorities are confident that he is the man.

### A Victim of the Cigarette.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—John Barry, the 26-year-old son of Policeman Barry, of the Leonard Street station, is the latest victim of cigarette smoking. He is now confined in the insane ward of the Bellevue hospital, and his family say that cigarettes are the cause of his trouble.

### Two Mines Flooded.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 29.—The mines of the Fuller Coal company, at Maltby, near here, were flooded by the heavy rains, and operations have been suspended indefinitely. Mine No. 2, of the Delaware and Hudson company, at Plymouth, was also flooded, causing great damage. In all, about 3,000 men are thrown out of employment by the flood.

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