

Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, 1881.

The Touchstone of Madness.

The suicide of General Upton has occasioned the greatest surprise among those who knew him, and who declare him to have been the last man they would have suspected of such an act. The nearly unanimous conclusion is that he was insane when the deed was done, although he never before suspected of such mental malady. One of his acquaintances, however, has adopted another theory, and a plausible one, too. He says that Upton was in the constant habit of sleeping with a revolver in easy reach, and he believes that he seized upon it while in a dream, and in pursuance of an apparently purposeful purpose conceived in that troubled state of his mind. It will be seen, on a little reflection, that these two theories are not so diverse as they at first appear. The mind may be disordered for the time in a dream as greatly as it would be in any other temporary state of mental distress or un-soundness. In this case of General Upton, it would seem that the seizure, of whatever kind it was, was sudden, and of the night on which the fatal deed was done, since the day before nothing unusual had been noted in his demeanor. Then, it is said that he was subject to physical ailments that may have caused him enough pain to render him temporarily irresponsible, or that may have thrown him into a distressing dream. Nearly everybody has, in his own experience, that which will cause him to believe almost any strange tale that may be told as done in a dream. Sleep walking feats are too common to excite surprise, whatever their nature. Why then may we not credit that a man may kill himself in a dream? It is not even necessary to believe that he has done it purposely; it may have accidentally occurred to General Upton that a shot intended for an antagonist was directed against himself. Or it may have been purposely done in obedience to some direction in the dream which appeared to justify and require it. If we admit the physical possibility that a man in possession of a pistol may shoot himself while dreaming, as we cannot avoid admitting, we are equally forced to admit that the impulse to the act may be given in a dream.

Only a day or two ago a fellow-citizen was relating to us a recent experience of his own. He dreamed that he was assailed by a great giant; appalled at the odds against him he quickly determined that his best chance laid in disabling the giant with a powerful kick. The concussion awoke him; he found that he had kicked a hole in the window shutter beside his bed and torn off the entire nail from his great toe. Fortunately his wife was on the other side of him or next morning there might have been a corner's inquest and some big newspaper headlines describing a horrible wife-murder.

The stomach is generally responsible for these physical outbreaks that are laid upon a disordered mind, for it is therein the mind gets its ugly twist. The lower organ has been held to be the seat of the mind and it is certainly responsible for most of man's evil deeds. A sound mind exists only when the body is sound, and the body is only sound when its digestive functions are all right. The undue flow of blood to the brain under the malign action of the stomach provokes these fits of anger which drive men to murderous deeds. From the same cause come dreams, which can often be traced to indigestion in eating.

A great deal of discredit has been thrown upon the defense of temporary and emotional insanity as accounting for and excusing crime. But there can hardly be a fair doubt that it is responsible for a very great deal of violent action. It cannot be otherwise; every man knows how difficult it is to subdue the angry passions that rise to an ill disposition, and he can easily imagine that what he does with difficulty to-day he may not be able to do at all again should his impulse to evil then be much stronger. We are convinced that a great deal of the crime of the day is involuntary and should be treated in a hospital rather than punished in prison. See the case which we now have in this man Pfeiffer, who killed his cellmate and left a confession of other brutal murders. Scarcely a doubt remains that he was insane. Yet the doctors examined him and pronounced him sane, declaring that his crazy conduct was simulated. This man was probably not one of the cases of emotional insanity of which we have been speaking. His mind would seem to have been permanently affected so as to entitle him to be called insane; under which name are usually placed those whose minds have been disordered for a considerable period of time, or at least more than momentarily; though we protest our inability to define insanity, nearly everybody being more or less afflicted by it, in some degree at some time. Pfeiffer had been crazy for years and it is not to the credit of the doctors that they did not find it out. His case serves our present purpose in showing how a really insane man may pass even medical inspection as sane; and gives rise to the query as to how many absolutely insane people are circulating around us in the world without our detecting it. Gen. Upton, sound as his army companions deemed him and as his work seemed to prove him, may possibly have been insane, as the final act of his life proved him to be in that hour, if the drama theory is not accepted.

The lesson to be learned from such facts as these may be, as we have suggested, that some of our penitentiaries need to be turned into insane asylums and hospitals. There is no use in punishing a man as a criminal who cannot help his offense. It is not just to him nor beneficial in deterring other crazy people from crime. What we need to know and inquire for is the touchstone of craziness.

Not long since the *Inquirer* was hunting, with a fool-kick's club, anybody who said the Republican primaries of this county were good for the soul. Honest confession is stepped for fraud.

MINOR TOPICS.

There are four popular ministers in St. Louis who receive \$8,000 each for salary.

The four "first-class" missions are France, Germany, Great Britain and Russia; our ministers to these courts receive, each, \$17,500 a year.

The Freedmen's aid society of the Methodist Episcopal church wants \$125,000 for the present year's expenditures. In thirteen years this society has disbursed \$893,000.

The Baltimore Episcopal Methodist is hard on a certain class of do-nothings who have led the State Agricultural college to fail so signally in doing the good work expected of it and quite another to give no more than a nominal support to receiving to sundry other institutions scattered here and there over the state. This latter, we regret to learn, the enemies of the college now propose to do. A bill has been drawn up by the men interested in securing a share of the spoils which they would wrest from the state and appropriate to themselves. This modest bill gives \$5,000 yearly to the University of Pennsylvania. It gives the same amount to a college in the western part of the state, as yet unnamed; the normal school at West Chester is now asked for \$2,500, and some unnamed normal school in the western part of the state is to be the recipient of an equal sum. Besides the above, \$5,000 more are to be paid to each of the already indented normal schools annually for the maintenance of experimental stations, laboratory fixtures and other things. The state board of agriculture may, if it sees fit, adopt either of the three experimental farms in connection with the experimental stations, but if this is deemed inadvisable, the board shall be authorized to sell either or all of the said farms, and purchase others, "conveniently located and adapted to the purpose aforesaid." There are a great many other provisions of various kinds in the bill, dealing with the things that shall be done these schools, and by the professors who teach in them, but the gist of the bill is in what we have given above.

We now begin to appreciate what the president of the Lancaster County Agricultural society had made his report of the proceedings of the meeting held in Philadelphia to consider this State Agricultural college question. He expressed his disappointment at the class of men who were engineering the business. They did not appear to be farmers nor men in the ordinary sense of the word, but what he saw and heard he was led to question their disinterestedness. His apprehensions seem to have been well founded. It now looks to us as if the whole business was an organized raid upon the pockets of the State Agricultural college for the benefit of certain educational institutions in the vicinity of Philadelphia and others in the western part of the state.

It is believed at the Land Office that the western land swindlers' ring, recently exposed, have obtained fraudulent titles to more than a million acres of public lands, the most of which they have sold to innocent settlers, who therefore have no valid title to the land they occupy. It rests with the secretary of the interior and the attorney-general to decide whether civil suits shall be begun at once to vacate the titles to these lands. It is believed that whatever is determined upon it will be so arranged that the blow shall not fall too heavily upon the thousands of duped settlers, whose hitherto undisturbed titles to their homes have been rendered invalid by this exposure.

THE FEDERAL SENATE.

The following are the United States Senate committees as elected, the first named on each list being chairman: Privileges and Elections—Messrs. Hoar, Cameron (Wis.), Teller, Sherman, Frye, Sanborn, Hill (Ga.), Vance and Farley. Foreign Relations—Messrs. Edmunds, Conkling, Logan, Ingalls, McMillan, Gariand, Davis (Ill.), Bayard and Lamar. Agriculture—Messrs. Conger, Hale, Sewell, McPherson and Williams. Manufactures—Messrs. Mahone, Blair, Plumb, Van Wyck, Davis (W. Va.), Shafter and George. Military Affairs—Messrs. Logan, Bayard, Cameron (Pa.), Harrison, Sewell, Cockrell, Maxey, Grover and Hampton. Naval Affairs—Messrs. Cameron (Pa.), Anthony, Rollins, Miller, Mahone, McPherson, Jones (Pa.), Vance and Farley. Judiciary—Messrs. Edmunds, Conkling, Logan, Ingalls, McMillan, Gariand, Davis (Ill.), Bayard and Lamar. Postoffices and Post Roads—Messrs. Ferry, Hill (Col.), Platt (N. Y.), Sawyer, Mahone, Maxey, Sanborn, Farley and Groomer. Public Lands—Messrs. Plumb, Hill (Col.), Blair, Van Wyck, McMillan, Jones (Pa.), Grover, Walker and Morgan. Private Land Claims—Messrs. Bayard, Jones, Call, Edmunds and Allison. Indian Affairs—Messrs. Dawes, Ingalls, Saunders, Logan, Cameron (Wis.), Coke, Pendleton, Walker and Slater. Pensions—Messrs. Teller, Platt (Conn.), Blair, Mitchell, Edgarton, Groomer, Slater, Jackson and Camden. Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Johnston, Jones (Pa.), Hill (Ga.), Anthony and Dawes. Claims—Messrs. Cameron (Wis.), Frye, Teller, Hoar, Conger, Pugh, Jackson, George and Fair. District of Columbia—Messrs. Ingalls, Rollins, McMillan, McMillan, McMillan, Harris, Blair, Vance and Gorman. Patents—Messrs. Platt (Conn.), Hoar, Mitchell, Edgarton, Coke, Call and Williams. Territories—Messrs. Saunders, Kellogg, McMillan, Sawyer, Butler, Gariand and Vest. Railroads—Messrs. Kellogg, Teller, Saunders, Hawley, Sawyer, Sewell, Grover, Williams, Jones and Brown. Mines and Mining—Messrs. Hill (Col.), Jones (Nev.), Van Wyck, Miller, Hampton, Fair and Camden. Revision of Laws—Messrs. McMillan, Platt (Conn.), Hale, Davis (Ill.), and Pendleton. Education and Labor—Messrs. Blair, Morrill, Burdick, Edgarton, Mahone, Maxey, Brown, George and Fair. Civil Service—Messrs. Hawley, Rollins, Jones (Nev.), Hill (Col.), Butler, Walker and Williams. Contingent Expenses—Messrs. Jones (Nev.), Platt (Conn.), and Vance. Engrossers—Messrs. Sanborn, Call and Conkling. Rules—Messrs. Frye, Hoar, Sherman, Call and Gorman. Improvement of the Mississippi River—Messrs. Mitchell, Kellogg, Van Wyck, Frye, Jones, Cockrell and Jackson. Transportation Routes to the Seaboard—Messrs. Harrison, Cameron (Pa.), Blair, Platt (N. Y.), Beck, Voorhees and Camden. Joint Committee on Public Printing—Messrs. Anthony, Hawley and Gorman. Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Platt (N. Y.), Rollins and Pugh. Joint Committee on Library—Messrs. Sherman, Hoar and Voorhees. Joint Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds—Messrs. Rollins, Morrill, Cameron (Wis.), and Vest. Select Committees. The following are the select committees elected: Civil Service—Messrs. Sawyer, Rollins,

WHEN the Honorable Joseph Souder, of the Pennsylvania Legislature, proclaims his contingent purpose to kick in the ribs of the newspaper men he only develops another point of resemblance between the modern statesman and the time-honored mule.

PERSONAL.

Cardinal MANSING is to have a coadjutor, as his duties are multiplying greatly upon him.

It is understood that GRANT will, at an early day, withdraw from the presidency of the New York exhibition company.

BORSTNER TOWNSEND pronounces his name with comparative ease because he gives to the 's' the value, or nearly the value, of 'y's.

President GARFIELD's two elder sons are said to be persecuted for their influence to the extent of forty letters a day by former schoolmates who want positions.

Professor FRANCIS WATLAND, of the Yale law school, sailed for Europe on Wednesday, and will be absent till early in June.

Hon. RICHARD VAUX, of Philadelphia, delivered a lecture on Masonry in the M. E. church at Middletown, night before last.

Lord GEORGE CAMPBELL, a cousin of the Marquis of Lorne, is now, with his wife, staying at the British legation in Washington. Many entertainments are being given in their honor.

ALICE WAT, M. D., well known in the eastern and southern sections, and for many years the popular teacher of a private school in Christiana, who died this week was buried to-day in Newlin township, Chester county.

MOODY will not go to Europe this summer. He will spend the summer at his home in Northfield, Massachusetts, holding a continuous meeting for advanced Bible scholars. Mr. Moody's schemes for education which are in progress at Northfield require more of his personal attention than they have been receiving during his protracted absence. He will be able to do a great deal for these during the summer. He will probably go abroad in the fall.

JOSEPH ASHMEAD CLAY, one of the oldest and ablest members of the Philadelphia bar, died at his residence in that city yesterday morning. He had been falling in health for some months, but bid fair to rally for awhile, when the death of his wife, on the 24th of December last, gave him a shock from which he did not recover, and he died simply from a general failure of his system, after an active life, without any organic disease. At the time of his death Mr. Clay was master in case of the Central railroad company of New Jersey against the Lehigh & Wilkesbarre coal company and also one of the masters in the present proceeding against the Reading railroad company, his associate being George M. Dallas. Mr. Clay was a man of cultivated tastes and widely extended reading.

THE VALLEY FORGE MURDER.

THE DESPERATE CRIME OF A DASH-FARREY THEFT.

On the Trail of the Villain—Circumstantial Evidence. Further particulars of the murder of Mr. Clugston, at Valley Forge early Friday morning, shows that about 3 o'clock Mrs. Clugston was awakened from a deep slumber by a heavy current of air passing through the room, and remembering that the door had been carefully closed when they retired, she intuitively felt that something was wrong. Arousing her husband, she was by the ghostly dimness of the lamp, which they had left burning low, that the door was wide open. Mr. Clugston arose to look at the clock and close the door, but he had scarcely taken three steps before he stumbled upon the form of a burglar creeping on his hands and knees. Finding himself discovered, the intruder assumed an upright position with cat-like agility and in an instant the two men were engaged in a deadly combat. The noise of the struggle thoroughly terrified Mrs. Clugston, who immediately screamed at the top of her voice "Tom, get up! There's a burglar in the house! Murder! Help!" Thoroughly comprehending this signal of approaching danger the burglar struggled desperately to free himself from his opponent's grasp, but in vain. He was seized by the throat, and slowly propped and hearing the approaching footsteps of Thomas Clugston, the 22-year-old son, who occupied the rear room on the second floor, the burglar as a last resort drew a revolver and discharged it at Mr. Clugston, who immediately released his hold upon the desperado. At this critical moment Thomas Clugston, the son, entered the door as the flash of the second discharge momentarily illuminated the apartment, and taking in the situation at a glance threw himself upon the burglar for the purpose of disarming and making him a prisoner. A desperate struggle then followed between the men, and although Thomas was doubtless the stronger physically, the murderer, for some time, by the thought of the gallows or prison, seemed possessed of superhuman strength and activity. How long the struggle would have continued it is impossible to conjecture had not the two men, clutching each other in a vice-like grip, rolled down stairs. As they descended in this abrupt manner Mr. Clugston, although he had received his death wound, attempted to descend the steps to assist his son.

The effort was more than his fast-ebbing life would permit, the desperado, however, in his haste, he staggered and fell headlong down the stairs, a corpse, upon the two men still writhing in each other's grasp. First one and then the other seemed to gain the advantage. The murderer, uttering a hoarse cry, drew his revolver, which he still held with a desperate clutch, in order to put bullet through the young man's heart, and just when it seemed that he would succeed in his murder attempt, Thomas, by an extraordinary effort, disarmed him. The son renewed his efforts to overcome the desperado, but he slipped from his grasp and with one leap cleared the parlor bounded out of the open window, and dashed down the lane like a greyhound, leaving his vest, undershirt and trousers to the hands of the young Clugston. The latter bounded after, but after chasing him for over one hundred yards without gaining upon him returned to the cottage. A lamp was brought down stairs and the dying father placed on a bed, and he spoke a word or uttered a groan, but gave a short gasp and quietly passed away just twenty minutes after he was placed on the sofa. The death-dealing bullet entered the right side of the neck near the collar-bone, completely severing the jugular vein. The ball was a No. 5 cartridge and the weapon a five-chambered, thirty-two calibre revolver with two empty chambers, showing that the second shot had missed its mark.

The murderer had approached the cottage from the rear, and had entered the south window of the parlor. He removed his No. 7 Congress gaiters and carefully placed them upon the window sill, which was nearly level with the front porch. In the struggle the murderer left his well-worn still hat containing initials "G. E." in the house; also his brown overcoat, a gray sack coat and dark vest, overwhelming evidence against him. In the pockets were found a black clasp pocket-book containing \$13.10, comprising ten cents in bills, a two-dollar County bank of 1864, a two-dollar and one-dollar bill and a dime, six linen handkerchiefs, a sheath dagger, six pairs of ladies' new striped hose, a silver watch, a pocket mirror, a flask of whisky, a pawn ticket for a silver watch, a silver watch pawned on March 9, in the name of E. Abbott, with the Consolidated loan company, No. 53 West Baltimore street, Baltimore, Md.; the card photograph of a pretty five-year-old girl wrapped in a piece of brown paper, on which is written: "Mrs. John, No. 29 W. Lafayette street, Ella Shipp."

The armed party who started out to hunt the murderer met a man on the road with blood on his shirt front. He was taken to Valley Forge, where he proved that his name was William, aged 72 years, of Horsham township, Montgomery county, and that the blood on his shirt was caused by a cut under his ear. Several respectable persons testified as to his good character, and he was promptly released. Before starting out again young Melvaine took a good look at the clothing left behind by the murderous burglar and was started to identify them as those worn by Griebel, a notoriously bad character, who was in the Valley Forge postoffice on Thursday. Young Tom Clugston, who also saw Griebel, recognized the coat as that worn by him on the day before at the postoffice. Griebel was well known in the village, where he bore an unenviable character and associated with the worst element. He served three years in the West Chester prison for cattle stealing; his prison record is not limited to that state. He formerly kept a small junk store at Valley Forge, but at the same time was known to frequent a disreputable place in the woods near the village, where he carried on the business of Penn station on the Pennsylvania railroad. Between Valley Forge and this point there are nearly five miles of solid woodland, in which a criminal might hide secure for several days. The vigilance committee from Valley Forge, armed to the teeth, were in the woods when the murderer determined upon tracing him to his den.

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STATE ITEMS.

Upon the arrival in Erie of Sara Bernhardt she was greeted by a host of claimants to blood relationship. The Bernhardt's of Erie are numerous and all sons of toil. Sara has not distributed her jewels among them, nor does she propose to give a benefit for her sisters, cousins and aunts.

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LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

AT POTTSVILLE.

In the M. E. Conference. In the conference yesterday quite a discussion ensued over propositions to divide the work of the conference into four or five districts, embracing or not embracing equally portions of Philadelphia in each. Rev. Combs favored the five district plan. He said the Lehigh district was so arranged that no man's God's earth could do it justice. Its railroads ran everywhere without going anywhere in particular. Mr. Welsh spoke in favor of his four district resolution. He said: "We have enough districts already." "Amen," shouted a brother, provoking laughter from all sides.

The five district amendment was laid on the table by a vote of 121 to 75. President Elder Swindell did not favor an increased number of districts, but he believed the churches favored it. He thought if the work was divided it would give the presiding elder's family more of his time. In 365 nights his family had had five.

Rev. Carrow thought the presiding elders under the present arrangement had to do too much traveling on "foot back." Brother Mills made a speech which was frequently applauded. He thought there was a great deal of talk about Philadelphia. He wanted to break it down. He also wanted it so arranged that those ministers who went to get out of the city could do so and those of the country get in with out friction.

The resolution finally passed was that the presiding bishop rearrange the work of the conference in four districts, equalizing the size and financial ability as nearly as possible and dividing the work in the city of Philadelphia equally among them. A resolution was passed that George Cummins, presiding elder of the Susquehanna district, name was called. His character was passed, and he presented and reported the state of the work on his district. The report was clear, concise and full of encouragement.

Rev. C. J. Thompson was elected a trustee of the educational fund, and L. D. Brown and J. R. Haines were chosen trustees of the centenary fund. The report of the Local Preachers' association was passed. The Eastern penitentiary and similar institutions, which are supplied every Sabbath, and an average of thirty-eight services each Sabbath held. The report also showed that five hundred and thirty-two appointments were made during the year in city and county churches.

The number of inmates in the various institutions brought under the preaching of the gospel by the members of the association was four thousand three hundred and forty-five. The bishop announced the following as the committee on the communication from the local preachers' association: T. C. Murphy, W. C. Best, N. Frame, J. Lindemuth and G. A. Wolf.

The largest audience of the week appeared at the Academy of Music last night, the occasion being the anniversary of the "Church Extension Society." P. J. Carson presided. M. D. Kurtz opened services with prayer. J. R. Boyle, of Philadelphia, spoke. He stated that in the last five years the association had 6,000 churches and built 385 churches. Chaplain McCabe spoke for an hour, raising \$1,000 from the audience. The meeting closed with the benediction by Dr. Rust.

The committee on Rev. Mr. Miller's case met in the afternoon. The hearing conducted secretly. The general opinion seems to be that Miller will be convicted. Another Big Day. The weather to-day is cold and damp, just such a day as the tobacco-growers like to have to deliver their tobacco; the only drawback being the horridly bad condition of the roads, which makes places are almost hub-deep with mud. But notwithstanding this drawback, immense quantities of the leaf were delivered at the city warehouses. At Fatman & Co's., to-day, 47 loads, many of them from the Lehigh valley. During the week Skiles & Frye, Lancaster, Pa., and other warehouses, there were also large numbers of wagons unloading from day to day.

John D. Hershey, Petersburg, has sold and delivered to Fatman & Co., 4 acres, at 20, 6 and 3. Activity in the East End. The following recent sales have occurred in this neighborhood: To Goldback & Manser—David Burkholder, 5 acres at 23, 9 and 3; John Hooper, 2 acres at 23, 18 and 3; Amos Lefevre, 2 acres, 20, 6 and 3; Isaac Muelck, 1 acre, 9 cents round; Samuel Swartz, 1 acre, 8, 6 and 3; A. H. Swartz, 1 acre, 8, 6 and 3; Jacob Shultz, one lot, 17 cents round, two lots 10 cents round; Elias Yundt, 2 acres, 18, 6 and 3.

To Bard for Brubaker & Co., D. S. Schleich, 1 acre at 18, 10, 6 and 3; Cyrus Skiles & Frye, Lancaster, 2 acres at 17, 7 and 3; John Mentzer, 17, 7 and 3; John Mentzer, 17, 7 and 3; Grabbit C. Mentzer, 17, 7 and 3; Isaac H. Brubaker, 18, 12 and 4. Skiles & Frye, Lancaster, A. G.