

THE PRESBERRY CASES.

JOHN AND REBECCA DENY THAT THEY KNEW THE ARTICLES WERE STOLEN.

A Virginia Colonel Has Acquainted a Fellow-Traveler with the Facts of the Case.

Monday Afternoon.—Upon the re-assembly of court a verdict of not guilty was entered in the case of commonwealth vs. John Myers, assault and battery.

The defense was a denial by the accused that he was guilty of the offense charged. In addition it was shown that the girl had sold counterfeit tickets about the amount, and that the girl's reputation for veracity was such that nobody in the neighborhood would believe her and her moral character was such that none of the children in the neighborhood were allowed to associate with her.

The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty and imposed the costs on Mrs. Hall, the prosecutor.

Robert Presberry and Rebecca Presberry, his wife, of No. 62 North Market street, were charged on three indictments with receiving stolen goods and against Robert there was an additional charge of larceny.

The testimony of the commonwealth was to the effect that Mrs. Shumyer had three chickens stolen from her premises on September 10. After Presberry's arrest three chickens were found in his yard which Mrs. Shumyer identified as her property.

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TRADE IN TOBACCO.

Local Factors Selling Very Little Leaf-Tobacco of the New to Begin After January 1.

The past has been one of the dulllest weeks of the year in the local tobacco market. The only sales reported were those of \$100,000, which would not be considered as a very large amount.

Some few buyers have been riding through the county looking at the crops, but some of the '88 crop has been bought during the week. The views of buyers and sellers are too wide apart as yet. Sellers hold their tobacco at a much higher figure than purchasers are willing to give.

Buyers admit that there is some good tobacco in the crop of '88, but claim that a good portion of the crop poor and for that reason the price cannot be paid that is asked. In the judgment of one of the largest dealers, buyers will not come into Lancaster county to buy in earnest until after January 1.

From the New York Market. The most prominent feature of the market the past week was the continued activity in Sumatra, Java and Manila tobaccos.

Buyers have come to the conclusion that, as there is no other leaf to replace the Sumatra, they must have it whether bad, good, or indifferent. They are therefore buying it in preference to any other tobacco.

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OATMEAL DUST EXPLODES.

A MILL AND SEVERAL ADJOINING BUILDINGS BLOWN TO SPLINTERS.

Three Men Lost Their Lives and a Family Miraculously Escaped—Window Glass in House Within a Quarter of a Mile is Broken—The Loss Heavy.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—A terrific explosion shattered the building occupied by David Oliver as an oatmeal mill, at the corner of Halsted and Fulton streets, a few minutes before 2 o'clock this morning. The building immediately took fire and with the saloon of Charles Murphy adjoining was a mass of flames.

The cause of the explosion is not known. In the oatmeal mill at the time were four men. One of these escaped and the other three were probably buried in the ruins. They were almost known John Schmidt and Charles Miller.

The only mill hand known to have escaped later in the ruins is John Holmes, who was blown out of a window. He is seriously injured, and was removed to the county hospital.

The wagon factory adjoining the saloon was also destroyed by the first shock. The explosion was a terrific one and shattered windows for two blocks on either side. It was heard all over the West Side and in the business districts of the South division.

The buildings destroyed are Nos. 65 to 70 Halsted street, located at the corner of Fulton. On the northwest corner of Fulton and Halsted streets stood a two story basement and frame building occupied by Charles Murphy as a saloon and residence.

Next, north on Halsted street stood the two story frame wagon shop and warehouse of Jacob Press. The next five lots were occupied by the Oliver mill, a three story brick building, basement and brick building facing the street, and raised to four stories in the rear. On Fulton street, next to Murphy's saloon, stood another large building, owned by Press, the wagon manufacturer. All these buildings were totally demolished and the mill in the corner saloon building, the only building which escaped, the mill, occupied by human beings, had an exceedingly narrow escape from death. It was at first supposed that they perished, but later it was learned they escaped.

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HONORARY MEMBERS.

They Acknowledge the Compliments of the Young Men's Democratic Society.

At the last meeting of the Young Men's Democratic society of this city, which was very largely attended, a number of distinguished Democrats of the country were elected honorary members. Secretary A. J. Dunlap, of Lancaster, Pa., was the first named, and the following are some of the replies received:

OFFICE OF ALLEN G. TRUMAN, No. 316 1/2 South High Street, WASHINGTON, Dec. 8, 1888. A. J. Dunlap, Esq., Lancaster, Pa.

DEAR SIR.—I have the pleasure of acknowledging the compliment of your election as an honorary member of the Young Men's Democratic club of Lancaster, Pa.

It is a high honor and I will endeavor to do all in my power to promote the interests of the club. I am, very truly, yours, SAM'L J. RANDALL, EXECUTIVE MANAGER.

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DIED ON THE GALLOWS.

FRANCIS HAWKINS PAYS THE PENALTY FOR HIS UNNATURAL CRIME.

Murdered His Mother Because She Objected to Him Marrying—He Walks to the Scaffold and is Executed for His Crime.

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"THE BOHEMIAN GIRL."

A Big Audience to Hear the Popular Opera by the American Opera Company.

One of the largest and by far the most fashionable audience that has been in Fulton opera house this season gathered there last evening. The occasion was the first appearance here of the American Opera company in Halle's popular opera "The Bohemian Girl."

The company, which is under the sole management of Gustav Henrichs, is the same that for a long time was at the Grand opera house, Philadelphia. It is quite large and between fifty and sixty people were brought to Lancaster. The opera was often heard in this city before and its beautiful airs are familiar to all lovers of music.

The production last evening was the best given here in a long time. The company is very strong and it includes some of the leading singers of the country. Miss Clara Follen is the prima donna of the Gypsy; she has a strong contralto voice of great flexibility, which was heard to advantage especially in the second act, when she sang a solo which brought thunders of applause.

Miss Adelaide Randall is a lady of charming manner, with a rich and melodious soprano voice. Her rendition of "I Dream That I Dwell in Marble Halls" was one of the best features of the opera and she received several encores from the enthusiastic audience. William Castle, the renowned tenor, who by the way is no stranger to the people of Lancaster, having appeared here with Emma, the prima donna, was also a finished actor, and it is doubtful whether he has an equal in the character of the proscrued Polo, which he made his own by his own efforts. The singing of "Then You'll Remember Me" captivated the large audience.

Frank Vetta, a baritone, was excellent as Count Arnheim, and his "Heart Bowed Down" was very pleasing. E. N. Knight, as Devilshoof, sang and acted well, and the remaining members of the cast were satisfactory. The choruses were full and very effective.

The large orchestra, which consisted of no less than twenty pieces, under the direction of Mr. Heinrichs, added greatly to the performance. Everything was in such perfect harmony that it was a great pleasure to the audience to listen. In the first and second acts, the girls were seen in pretty dances. The costumes of the company were rich and elegant. One thing that was lacking was appropriate scenery.

The third annual national convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in St. Louis, Mo., on Monday, December 11, 1888. The headquarters of the federation are in New York, and it has ramifications in every state of the Union. The federation was organized by a former leader among the cigarmakers in New York.

This new organization of trade unions, which conducts its operations quietly, but without secrecy, has within two years risen to proportions of vast magnitude in the United States. It is numerically the strongest labor organization in the world. According to a report recently issued from headquarters there are over 3,000 local unions, in round numbers, in 65,000 cities. It is organized on the principle of the independence of the trade and the labor unions belonging to it. Each union is free to manage its own affairs without interference, and the federation merely deals with those general questions in which the labor organization as a whole is interested. The union is considered desirable. Its assessments are very light; it has but few officers. Their powers are very restricted, and it has no political aims. It has broad foundations and is solidly built, and the St. Louis convention is, perhaps, the most fairly representative of the body that has ever assembled in the United States.

As a matter of fact the American Federation is at this time more than twice as strong in number as the order of the Knights of Labor, the paying membership of which, as shown at the late convention in Indianapolis, is now far under 300,000. The constitution of the American Federation is short and plain. It sets forth the objects of the body, which are mainly to secure the advantages of combination, to act unitedly upon certain questions of common interest, and to defend the interests of the labor