

The Centre Democrat.

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MURDEROUS ITALIAN

Five Men Killed at a Row at Winburn, Pa.

STILETTO'S DEADLY WORK

The Trouble Arose in a Speak Easy—The Murderer Has Escaped—One Victim Hails from Philadelphia, this County—A Desperate Man.

It is believed that his name is Cepto Cervo. At least that was one of his aliases. He killed four men in a drunken brawl at Winburn Monday morning, and if caught his relatives in Italy will never learn of his fate except through accident.

Cervo is a bad Italian. He went to Winburn several months ago and was known to give several different names. He is an inveterate gambler and was in pursuit of that calling when he became involved in a quarrel at an early hour on Monday morning.

KILLED FOUR WITH STILETTO.

Words were passed between Cervo and several of the participants in the game. Cervo was the aggressor, according to all accounts, and he seemed to believe that all of the others should be afraid of him. Finally a fight started. Cervo was hardly holding more than his own, when he drew a stiletto. His first victim was August Grayback, with whom he came in contact in a struggle for supremacy on the floor of the speak-easy in which the men were. With one broad sweep of his murderous stiletto he stretched his man on the floor.

Cervo immediately started to cut his way through the crowd when he saw the first victim fall. The next man that came within his reach was John Halverson, a Swede, who had also been patronizing the speak-easy during the night. Halverson made an attempt to prevent the landing of the knife. The powerful sweep of the knife disembowled him, and then Cervo escaped farther into the crowd. In his attempts to cut his way out he carved Edward P. McCauley and George Shives, both of American birth. The two men after being cut were able to run from the place and to announce to their friends on the outside that they had been stabbed by Cervo. Both of the men dropped dead outside of the building and were picked up by bystanders shortly afterwards.

WILL BE LYNCHED IF CAUGHT.

To-night a telephone message was received in the city stating that the trouble did not occur over a game of cards, but that its incitement was due to the fact that Cervo and another foreigner were in love with the same woman, Mrs. Stueck, who kept the speak-easy. At last accounts Cervo was being pursued by a crowd of irate Winburn people, and if caught he will certainly be lynched.

FIFTH MAN IS DEAD.

Thomas Kipling, of Philadelphia, Pa., aged 28 years, the fifth victim of the cutting affray at Winburn, Monday, died from the stab inflicted by the stiletto of the Italian.

Indignant at the alleged refusal of the Somerset county authorities to offer a reward for the capture of the assassin, or assassins, some of the citizens of Winburn have taken steps to raise a fund large enough to insure a general searching party of the entire end of the state.

Farm House Burned.

The house on the farm of W. H. Strohecker, near Boonville, in Sugar Valley, was destroyed by fire about 1 o'clock Saturday morning. The house was occupied by Perry O. Sheets, the tenant farmer, who lost all his household goods. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the explosion of a coal oil lamp which was kept burning at night. Mr. Strohecker's loss is about \$1,200, on which there is \$500 insurance. The loss of farmer Sheets is total as he had no insurance.

When Mr. and Mrs. Sheets awoke the fire had so far advanced that they had barely time to save enough of their wearing apparel to dress themselves. They carried their four children out of the building in their night clothes, and saved none of the children's clothing.

House Destroyed, No Insurance.

The house owned by Solomon Peck near Nittany, and occupied by John Shields, was destroyed by fire about 11:30 o'clock Saturday morning. The flames were started by the soot in the pipe in the garret catching fire and communicating to the roof. Nearly all the furniture was removed. The loss on the house is placed at \$600. No insurance on the house or the furniture.

Odd Fellow's Celebration.

The annual Odd Fellows celebration will be held in Renovo this Thursday, April 26.

STRAIGHT DOWN THE MOUNTAIN.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company Will Shorten Its Line Five Miles or More.

In each new movement of the great Pennsylvania Railroad company on lines of improvement to its system there seems to be a disposition to cast a dark shadow over former enterprises by the magnitude of the new project. The latest and most gigantic undertaking is now said to be well matured in the way of plans, and involves the erection of a straight track down the eastern slope of the Allegheny mountain from Gallitzin to Altoona, south of the present track, which will shorten the line about five miles, and get rid of all the winds around the hills that prevail on the route now in use, among others the great horseshoe bend.

Large and powerful engines could be used on the straight track which are not so practicable on a winding road and unlimited speed will be secured for the fast passenger trains as is the case now on the western slope of the mountain since the work of straightening and improving the line on that side of the mountain has been completed. The abandoning of the present track on the eastern slope is not contemplated, but its use for freight traffic will be continued.

This improvement is a large undertaking and will cost millions of dollars, but the benefit to the road will be so great that the outlay will be fully justified. The old line has become so congested that the traffic is only handled with much difficulty. President Cassat is proving himself even a greater railroad man than was supposed by his most ardent admirer.

Hummel's Execution.

William Hummel, the quadruple murderer, was informed at Williamsport Thursday that Governor Stone had fixed June 5th as the date of his execution. He almost broke down, and for the first time since his arrest for the terrible crime he showed emotion. As he realized that he had less than two months to live, tears came into his eyes, the first any one has seen him shed; his limbs shook as if with ague, and in a voice he said, "I guess it's all up with me now—that's the way it looks." He soon recovered his composure, however, and lighting a cigar began pacing to and fro in his cell. Hummel requested that no visitors be allowed to see him.

Badly Burned.

Mrs. William Yearick, of Mill Hill, Clinton county, while starting fire under a kettle in which she proposed to boil soap out doots, was badly burned Wednesday morning of last week, by her clothes taking fire. She had taken a lot of paper scraps out of the house and thrown them under the kettle, over which she afterward leaned while stirring with a stick the ingredients for making the soap. While in this leaning position the bosom of her dress caught fire and was soon all ablaze. She ran to a neighbor's house, where the flames were extinguished, but not before she had been badly burned about the breast, neck and face.

Aged Couple Divorced.

Judge Metzger, at Williamsport Thursday, granted a divorce to Abraham Swartz aged 84 years, from his wife, who is about 70 years old. The decree was issued upon the ground of desertion, it being alleged that the woman left her spouse about two years ago. The couple had been married over twenty years and Mr. Swartz is a great grandfather by a former marriage. This is the oldest couple that have ever been separated by a divorce in Lycoming county and probably in the state. After the proceedings were at an end, Swartz wept and asserted that he still loved the woman.

Heroic Mrs. Garman.

Mrs. John Garman, living near Hunter's Park, did a heroic deed lately. The little home took fire during the absence of her husband and while she labored to get her five little children safely out of the home and having succeeded, she entered again and grabbed a two gallon tin can of oil which was on fire near the door, and when she got it out the sodering of the screw top on the can had melted dropping the cap into the can. Her bravery prevented a certain explosion which would have doomed the home.

Fine Ornament.

An armor piercing shell weighing about 1000 pounds has been placed in position in the Logan House yard at Altoona. The shell is supposed to have been one of those fired by the battleship Indiana, while bombarding the Morro castle at Santiago, Cuba, during the late war with Spain. The shell is mounted on a large boulder and makes a fine ornament for the centre of the lawn.

It is easier for a man to be the architect of his fortune than to be the builder.

PORTO RICAN COMMENT

What Some of the Leading Papers Think of the Affair

NATION'S TRADITIONS LOST

The Colonial System Adopted, Which We Condemned for Over a Century—Whither Are We Drifting—Abraham Lincoln's Views Recalled.

President McKinley, under the Porto Rican bill that he made a law a few days ago by his signature, appoints the Governor of the island, the executive council (a legislative branch), the judges, the officers who select the men who fill every appointive office. He has the power to kill any legislation by means of the veto or his appointee, the governor. He has the power also to grant all franchises through his appointee, the executive council. The people of Porto Rico are taxed by the same law, without representation in the controlling branch of the island government, except at the pleasure of the President. The people are allowed to elect only the members of the lower branch of the Legislature, and one commissioner to the United States. All the officers named are to be appointed by the President for a term of four years. Their salaries are provided as follows:

- A governor at \$3,000 a year.
- A secretary of the council at \$4,000 a year.
- An attorney general at \$4,000 a year.
- An insular treasurer at \$5,000 a year.
- An auditor at \$4,000 a year.
- A commissioner of the interior at \$4,000 a year.
- A commissioner of education at \$3,000 a year.
- A chief justice of the supreme court at \$5,000 a year.
- For associate justices of the supreme court at \$4,500 a year each.
- A marshal of the supreme court at \$3,000 a year.
- A United States district judge at \$5,000 a year.
- A United States district attorney at \$4,000 a year.
- A United States district marshal at \$3,500 a year.
- Three members of a commission to codify the laws of the island at \$5,000 a year each.
- Five members of the executive council, whose salaries are to be fixed by the Porto Rican Legislature.

The Porto Ricans are allowed to name:

- One commissioner to the United States at \$5,000 a year.
 - Thirty-five members of the lower House of the Legislature, who will be paid \$5 a day when in session.
- The offices will be filled on the order or direction of Mark Hanna and the Republican machine. McKinley, through this unconstitutional law, usurps greater power on the island of Porto Rico than George III. attempted in the American colonies. And General Miles, in his proclamation when the willing people welcomed him and his army to the island, pledged to them all the rights and privileges of American citizens. What follows the flag to Porto Rico—a lie or the truth?—Post.

LINCOLN'S WISDOM.

"Abraham Lincoln condensed this Declaration into saying: 'No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.' Yet the Republicanism of McKinley and of the Tribune claims it is a virtue that the Administration 'appoints men to govern' 900,000 Porto Ricans and 8,000,000 Filipinos who have never stolen anything!"—World.

BREACH OF FAITH.

From Philadelphia North American (Rep.)
The Porto Rico tariff bill, as amended by the Senate, has been passed by a narrow margin, and it will be interesting to note how the president will reconcile his approval of the measure with his definition of "plain duty." While the compromise tariff of 15 per cent. may not and probably will not place any great burden upon the Porto Ricans, we believe the act to be wrong in principle and based upon a false conception of the relations between Porto Rico and the rest of the United States.
We believe it to be a grievous mistake for the republican party to commit itself to any measure of mere expediency that is not defensible in principle, and we fear that trouble will come to the party through the refusal of its leaders to follow the path of plain duty pointed out by the president. No party can afford to juggle with principles that the people have been taught to regard as basic in the Constitution of the republic, even though the immediate consequences of its action are not seriously harmful to those affected.
The evil of the Porto Rican tariff lies in its denial of the right of Porto Ricans to full American citizenship, and that denial is a breach of faith. It introduces into our system of government a foreign and inconsistent element that is sure to breed trouble later. Under our flag there is no room for colonies or "foreign possessions," no room for any but free citizens or people free to become citizens. Our Constitution contemplates and provides for expansion, but not for imperialism. The American republic is the antithesis of the Roman Empire, and

Roman methods of governing conquered people cannot be applied by the United States to people who voluntarily join the Union under promise of full citizenship. The civil government provided for Porto Rico is not such a government as the people of that island had a right to expect. It gives them a Legislature whose acts may be vetoed by a carpet-bag Council appointed by the President, and that precious body of rewarded politicians has exclusive control of the granting of franchises and privileges. That is the "bug" in the bill, and doubtless it accounts for the tremendous pressure brought to bear upon Congress by scheming capitalists and representatives of powerful trusts to force the Porto Rican bill through without full discussion. There are indications that wires have been laid for working a gigantic grab, and the big salaries provided for appointed officers may be intended to keep them quiet while the grabbing is going on. The Governor gets \$5000 and the other officials from \$3000 to \$5000 a year, with perquisites. The officials of Territories receive no such salaries.
Should this carpet-bag government turn out to be a cunningly contrived syndicate for the looting of Porto Rico, the Republican party will have to face the responsibility for a great national scandal.

BAR SINISTER.

From the New York World:
One hundred and thirty-five years one month and fifteen days ago the British Parliament passed an act for the taxation of the American colonies, the money to be raised to be expended in and upon the colonies themselves.

The whole world knows what followed. It glows upon the brightest page of human history. It thrills from every fold of the freest flag that floats.
At the bidding of William McKinley a Congress of the Republic yesterday drew across the shield of representative government the black bar sinister of tyranny and spat upon the graves of those who died on the battlefields of liberty from Lexington to Yorktown.

Shall we wipe out that stain? Shall we reconsecrate those graves?
The platform that should be adopted at Kansas City was made at Washington yesterday. There is no room in that platform for minor issues, for issues that cannot be affected by this campaign. There is room for just the one great issue—the Republic.
The Republic has been assailed. Its institutions have been undermined. And in this Porto Rican bill Privilege, Militarism and Imperialism throw down the gauntlet. There is no longer any possibility of deception or delusion.

Rarely has heavier responsibility been placed upon political leadership than that now resting upon the leaders of the Democratic party. The platform they adopt will be the test.

TO BE MADE WIDER.

The Old Tunnel at Spruce Creek to be Widened and Improved.

A contract has been concluded with Messrs. Drake & Stratton for the widening of the old Spruce Creek tunnel, the cost of which will be from \$150,000 to \$200,000. It will require between six months and a year to complete the work, which will probably be commenced in about two weeks by a force of 300 laborers under the direction of G. H. Thompson. The two tracks now located in the old tunnel are so near together that only one train at a time can be sent through. When the work of widening is completed these will be placed further apart, allowing, with the new tunnel, a four track service at this point.

With the beginning of this work the population of Tunneltown will be again largely augmented, and in all likelihood the people of the vicinity who are fond of blood-curdling sensations will again have all their morbid appetites craved.

QUAY TO BE SEATED TUESDAY.

Those Opposed to Him Admit as Much in Private.

The correspondent of the New York World telegraphs as follows: On Tuesday next M. S. Quay, who has been in Washington most of the time since Congress met, with Governor Stone's credentials as Senator from Pennsylvania, will be seated. The seat in the front row which he occupied for twelve years has been held open for him.

The anti-Quay Senators privately admit defeat. Senator Chandler says the Pennsylvania will have a "good, clear majority." Senator Wolcott says: Six majority; Penrose says five, and Stewart says five.

Will Put Down a Well.

The Central Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Company, of Lock Haven, has decided to drill a well on the Carr farm, about 100 rods from the well recently drilled in the Gaines district by the Blossburg company. The Lick Run gusher which on Thursday produced 200 barrels of oil, is said to be in bad shape. On Friday salt water commenced flowing into the well and if the water cannot be shut off the well will be worthless.

Trust Prices Come High.

Those thinking of building the coming summer stand paralyzed at the high prices of lumber, while those who have large quantities of lumber to sell and who are bound to the sky-high prices by the lumber trusts, are alarmed at the situation as they cannot sell their stuff,

TROUBLE WITH TURKEY

Diplomatic Relations May Be Severed.

SULTAN WILL NOT PAY

Indemnity for the Destruction of Missions and School Property May Lead to Serious Complications—Needs a Good Disciplining from Uncle Sam.

There is no longer any question that the diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey are in a critical state, growing out of the sultan's bad faith. He promised to pay the indemnity claim of the American missionaries for the destruction of eight buildings of the Euphrates college at Harpoot and several buildings belonging to the American missionaries at Marash during the Armenian massacres of 1895. Mr. Straus, the United States minister to Turkey, is at present here on leave of absence.

Diplomacy appears to have exhausted itself at Constantinople, the sultan having promised to pay the indemnity claims, amounting to some \$90,000, which promise was again renewed prior to Mr. Straus' departure, and although sixteen months have elapsed since the promise was first made, that promise still remains unfulfilled. What action the government will now take to enforce the sultan's promise is not definitely known, but as the situation is critical, it may result in Secretary Hay sending the Turkish minister at Washington his passport. The question involved between the two countries is no longer one resting upon disputed points of international law, but upon the sultan's broken faith. This is not his only promise, he having stated to our minister that he would give his permit for the reconstruction of the American college and school buildings yet up to the present the official permit upon one excuse and another has been withheld.

SNOW SHOE DISASTER.

Last week we had only time to give meager details of the killing of three men at Snow Shoe, by an engine jumping the track. The facts we published, as in the main were correct, to which the following may be added:

The accident happened Thursday morning 12th, on the Holt branch, about a mile east of Clarence. Engine, No. 1267, known as the "hog," class R, with cab on top of the boiler, was running empty and in going over a curve it left the track and rolled over a ten-foot embankment into a swamp.

The engineer, Al Rowan, made his escape by crawling out the cab window, but fireman Harry Temple, brakeman, Al Temple and Allen Beamer an engine hostler were crushed to death instantly by the heavy engine rolling on their side of the cab and pinned them in the soft earth until the wreck crew, from Tyrone were able to raise the engine at 1:30 p. m.

Fireman Harry Temple lived with his widowed mother near the station. He was 23 years old and unmarried. Brakeman Calvin Temple leaves a widow and two children. He was a cousin of Harry and was about 35 years old.

Hostler Allen Beamer's parents live at Dix Station, near Vail. He was unmarried.

The injuries which engineer Rowan received were only slight.

Another freight wreck occurred at Snow Shoe Thursday afternoon within a mile of where the three men lost their lives earlier in the day. Eight cars went over a steep embankment and were smashed up. No one was injured but several narrow escapes were made.

The body of Allen Beamer was sent to his home at Dix Station, near Tyrone, where it was buried; that of Calvin Temple, the brakeman, was buried in the Milesburg cemetery Sunday afternoon, while perhaps the largest funeral of all was that of Harry Temple, the fireman, which occurred from his mother's home in Snow Shoe same afternoon at 1 o'clock. Owing to the accident having been so near the mountain village, the entire populace turned out, and the Easteride was a season of mourning instead of a day of rejoicing.

Will be off for the Gold Fields.

Fourteen thousands people have already engaged passage from Pacific coast ports for Cape Nome, Alaska, on the first lot of steamers sailing north about May 1. It is estimated that 20,000 people will leave for the Alaskan gold fields the present season.

Eagleville School Burned.

The frame school house in Eagleville, was destroyed by fire between 1 and 2 o'clock Monday morning. It is believed that the building was set on fire.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

HER STRONG POINT.

She has no dog to fondle,
She has no cat to pet;
She does not own a parrot,
She leads no social set;
She writes no learned papers
To read where women meet.
But she can get up dishes
Her husband likes to eat,
And they are saving money,
And find that life is sweet.

The average man is a total abstainer from total abstinence.

The hermit shows an inclination to choose his own society.

It is always the self-made man that lays the blame on others.

Every barber starts in business with at least one mug—his own.

The man who is satisfied with himself wants but little here below.

Some men who possess neither gold nor silver have lots of brass.

The less honor a man has, the more sensitive he is on the subject.

The man who is fond of a savage dog has no business with a wife.

A man resembles a ball of twine when he is wrapped up in himself.

The short man doesn't worry about not being long for this world.

Give any man a good opportunity and he will make a fool of himself.

It is easier to teach a baby to talk than it is to teach some men not to.

A man seldom knows when he's got enough until he gets too much.

Some men keep as cool as cucumbers even when they are in a pickle.

Even on a small salary, the contentions can make both ends meet.

Some men are about as progressive as a sky-rocket turned upside down.

When it comes to jealousy and crowing, a man can discount a rooster.

When it comes to stepping into a fortune, no man objects to putting his foot in it.

It's no sign the dentist is in "high society" because he attends swell gatherings.

The highest ambition of some men is to be seen on a corner talking to a policeman.

Some persons shine in society because of their gold and others because of their brass.

Some men would have water on the brain if whisky wasn't used as a displacer.

When a man offers to produce evidence to prove what he says, always let him do it.

The average man puts in so much time preaching that he has no time left to practice.

Justice is probably represented as a woman because it's something a man is always after.

Most men who complain that the world fails to understand them, ought to be glad of it.

The man who finds himself between the devil and the deep blue sea, never gets drowned.

The woman who marries a man to reform him, has a life-time job of twenty-four hours a day.

Occasionally there is a man born with a silver spoon in his mouth, but usually it's a wooden ladle.

A man frequently makes a bootless attempt to get upstairs about 2 A. M. without awakening his wife.

It would keep a dozen harvesting machines busy gathering the crop of wild oats sown by some men.

GOOD THING FOR HIM.

Joseph Dann, of Tioga county had an exciting experience near Cherry Springs, Friday night. While walking through the wilderness the crackling of twigs warned him of the approach of something and he began running. Glancing backward he saw a big, black, shaggy bear in pursuit. He increased his speed, but was handicapped by bad roads. By the aid of the moon he picked out a small tree easy of ascension and made a dash for it just as the bear seized his trousers' leg. Dann thought it was all up with him then, but held on for dear life, and in a moment the cloth gave way and the bear dropped back upon the ground. Dann climbed to safety. The bear squatted and proposed to make a siege of it. At last it began to gnaw at the tree, which was really nothing more than a sapling, and Dann thought he say his finish. Soon, however, bruin, tired of his diet and lay down. At day-break the animal gave up in disgust and shuffled off into the woods. After waiting considerable length of time, Dann climbed down, more dead than alive, and made his escape.

Political Honors.

Cyrus Woods, formerly of Boalsburg, was nominated for Senator by the Republicans in Westmorland county Tuesday, and Lawrence Thomas, a Pine Grove boy, only missed the nomination for Assemblyman on the same ticket by a few votes.