

# HISTORY OF THE CRIME

## Brutal Negro Assaults Woman at Night and Cuts Her Throat.

Mrs. John Baudis was found in a field near her home, at Scotia, Pa., this county, on the evening of October 16th, 1910, with her throat cut from ear to ear. It was dark at the time and there was no eyewitness to the crime.

The woman's scream for help was heard by her children, who were at home, about 100 yards distant, and they found the lifeless body, which later was removed to her humble home.

The murder created a furor in that community. From information that was gathered from various sources, it was learned that Bert Delige had been near the scene of the murder, about the time it was committed. Having figured in other crimes, and been associated with the Baudis family, suspicion generally pointed towards him, and the next day at the direction of District Attorney W. G. Runkle, Bert Delige was placed under arrest by Sheriff Hurley, and since then has been confined in the Centre County jail.

The District Attorney then threw all his energies into the case, and spent days searching the scene of the murder, and interviewing residents of the community. He successfully

talking over the murder. Being the sole occupant of the jail for many days, in his loneliness he brooded over his crime and the mental anguish and the gnawings of a guilty conscience gave him no rest—it was more than he could bear when he knew that day by day the guilty evidence against him was being gradually unfolded. He told story after story about his razor, and presented many theories in regard to blood spots on his clothing, and cited how he came in contact with another person in Bellefonte, in a way that he wished to account for the blood. For several hours the conversation was continued and the prisoner advanced different stories in that time and became confused and showed considerable emotion. After he had partially exhausted himself, he was plainly told that there was no use to try to deceive anyone any longer; was told that the razor had been found, and that the brother had confessed to its being hidden; and had taken the officers to the place in the woods where it was recovered. He still wavered some but the perspiration came out on him and he weakened considerably. He was told that there was no

a matter of general information, and not limited to any greedy individual to exploit.

**Destructive Fire at St. Mary's**  
A serious conflagration started in Dinwiddie clothing store at St. Mary's, Thursday morning, at 4 o'clock, which on account of a strong wind blowing at that time, threatened to destroy a large amount of property.

The flames communicated to a large bakery, the Family theatre, along with a number of dwelling houses, were totally destroyed, while the hotel was badly damaged. Renovo was asked for assistance and the firemen soon got ready and started for this place, but were notified after going part way that their services would not be required. The fire was under control at 8 o'clock.

**Another Hunting Accident.**  
Thursday morning on the Blowers' farm, south of Philipsburg, George Frank, a well known young resident of South Philipsburg, was hunting rabbits with an army musket, which unfortunately exploded, horribly lacerating his face and breaking his right shoulder. Fourteen stitches were required to sew up the wounds on his face, Dr. E. L. Jones looking after his injuries.

An entertainment will be held in Fillmore M. E. church, Friday evening, December 16th 1910. Refreshments will be served. An admission of 10 and 15 cents will be charged. Proceeds are for the benefit of the church funds. All are cordially invited.

Man's life is full of trouble, temptation, and contradictory experiences. He comes into this world without his consent, and goes out against his will. When he is little, the big girls kiss him; and when he is big, the little girls kiss him. When he is a man, he wishes he was a boy; and when he is a boy, he wishes he was a man.

The man who has nothing to strive for will do little striving. Incentive makes the world's progress.

Chas. C. Daley, formerly of Curtin township, now living in Union township, killed a five-pronged buck on the last day of deer season, which weighed 196 pounds.

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- Ginghams, 5, 6, 7 and 8 1/2c.
- 4-4 Bro. ottons, 5, 6 1/2 and 7c.
- Hill Bleached Cottons, 8 1/2c.
- Outing Flannels, 6 1/2, 8 and 10c.
- Blankets, single bed, 50c a pair.
- Blankets, double bed, 75, 98 and \$1.25 per pair.
- Haps, 75, 98, \$1.25 and \$2.00.
- Ladies' Wrappers, 98c.
- Ladies' Kimonos, short, 15 and 50c.
- Ladies' Kimonos, long, 50c and \$1.
- Sweaters, 25, 48, 75, 98 to \$2.75.
- Towels, 19-42 Huck, only 10c.
- Pillow Slips, 12c; Sheets, 72-90, 42c.
- Belts, 10, 15, 25 and 50c.
- New Collars, 10, 15, 25 and 75c.
- With other goods, yellow sugar 5c; Soft and Granulated 5 1/2c; Arbuckle Coffee, 15c.

Gilliam's Dept Store

## Garman Opera House

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

The most realistic drama of the century

# The Wolf

By Eugene Walters, author of

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With Complete Cast and Production, as it appeared for  
**ONE YEAR IN NEW YORK CITY.**

Prices—35—50—75—\$1.00

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is the town's Headquarters for good play things. Its in the Bush Arcade Building.

Every new fun making toy that could be gathered from different manufactures is here.

The showing is wonderful, and there is not one unreliable thing in the entire stock; no matter how low the price, you'll not find such a wide variety anywhere, and you'll not begin to get as good value in any other store.

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Baby Sylvia, a wonderful Dollar Doll. Two feet tall, with her shoes and stockings; Bisque head, beautiful face; eyes that open and close; pearly teeth that she loves to show; sewed curly hair, blonde and brunette; jointed . . . . \$1.00

Mechanical trains—Set consists of locomotive, tender, two and three cars, round and oval tracks, good clockwork in the locomotive; regular price \$1.75 special at . . . . \$1.00

### GAMES

Games—Just a few suggestions. Jack Straws, Lotto, Steeple Chase, Fortune Telling, Checkerboards . . . .50c.

Games of Finch, fascinating parlor games everybody plays it. 10c. and 25c.

Bagatelle games, the marble games 10c. Lotto games for old and young people to play with 5 and 10c.

Old Maids games 5 and 10c. Snap, Authors, Peter Code.

## J. FINKLESTINE'S

Bush Arcade,

Bellefonte, Pa.

# Christmas Suggestions

We call your attention to the fact, that its time to think of Xmas gifts. An appropriate Christmas Present means one that will give service.

Show us the man who wouldn't appreciate

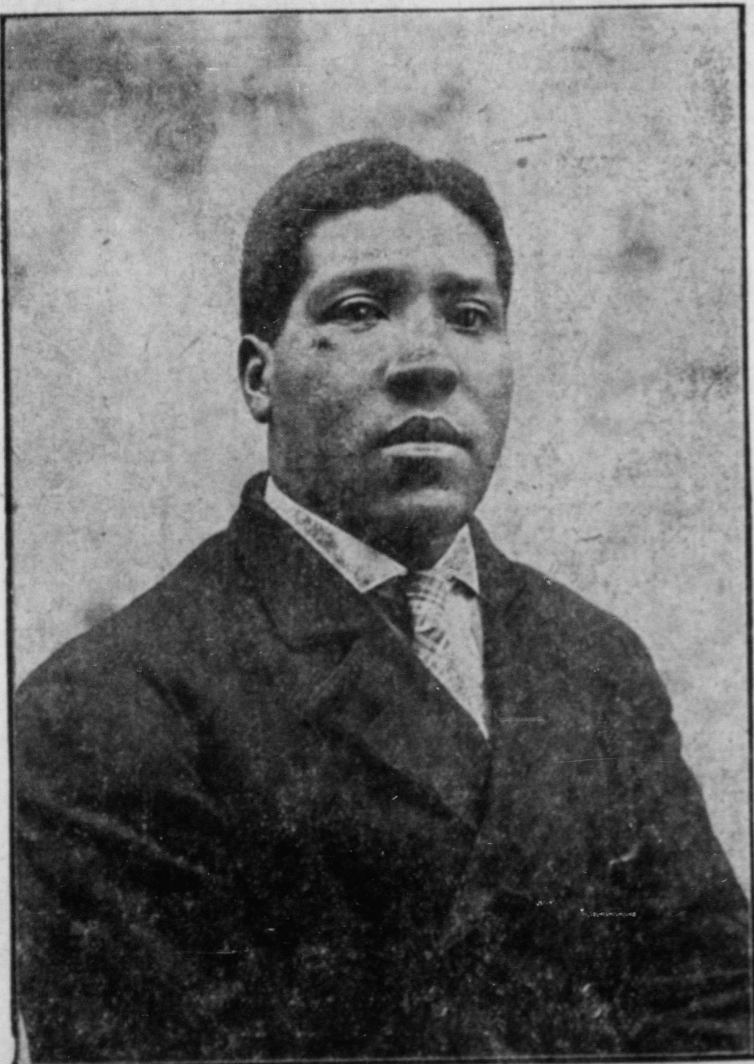
A half dozen Hosiery in a fancy box, Xmas Ties in Xmas boxes. Scarf Pins and Cuff Buttons set of these in nice box, Watch Fob, One-half dozen Hankerchiefs, Silk Hankerchief, Leather Gloves, Dozen Collars in box, Leather Belts, Pair of Flannel Shirts. Hat or Cap.

We want to see him. If he would like Fancy or White Vest, A few Shirts, Umbrella, Underwear, Garters in boxes, Fancy Elastic Arm Bands, Suspenders in Holly boxes, Garter Suspenders and Arm Bands all in Fancy box, Sweater Coats, Suit Case or Traveling Bag, Trunk, Outing Flannel Night Robes, Ever Ready Safety Razor, Childs Hat, Childs Cap.

## WILLIARD'S STORE,

The Merry Christmas Store for Men.

HIGH ST., BELLEFONTE, PA.



BERT DELIGE

The negro who confessed to having assaulted Mrs. Baudis and cut her throat with a razor

traced the murdered, from the scene, across fields, over fences, and particularly identified the tracks across the Old Mud Dam, leading to the Delige home, as having been made by the shoes worn by the prisoner.

He also could account for Bert Delige's whereabouts, as well as other members of that family, every movement on that fatal evening. He secured Delige's clothes and minutely inspected them and had certain suspicious spots examined by a chemist.

On Thursday, November 16th, Delige was given a habeas corpus hearing before Judge Orvis. He was represented at the hearing by Col. E. R. Chambers and W. D. Zerby, Esq., while N. B. Spangler, Esq., assisted the District Attorney.

### Human Blood Found.

The most sensational and important testimony produced at this hearing was by the chemists, who said that he had tested the spots on Delige's clothing, and he believed it was human blood.

Delige's shoes, also, corresponded to the tracks in the Old Mud Dam. This testimony seemed to unnerve the prisoner somewhat. For the first time he displayed an uneasiness.

The Court decided that the testimony was sufficient to hold the prisoner for trial on the charge of murder, at this session of court.

Up to this time Delige was perfectly cool and apparently unconcerned over the charge preferred against him, and talked freely with all persons, always stoutly declaring his innocence.

The next important step in the case was to find the weapon with which the deed was committed. The natural presumption was a razor, and the most painstaking search was made of the surroundings for such a weapon.

It was noticed that Walter Delige, of Scotia, had visited Bert at the jail frequently, and it was believed that he had some knowledge of the murder, as well as the weapon used.

In the meantime Mr. Runkle secured the assistance of a Mr. Mitchell, a detective from the Pinkerton Agency, in Pittsburgh, to assist him. After they went over the whole affair Walter Delige was summoned to the Company office at Scotia, and the detective took him in hand for an interview and all persons that Delige knew were excluded from the room, and with N. B. Spangler, as a witness, he began the "sweating" process. By easy stages he got the young man to talk freely and frankly, riveting his eyes on him every second. As if by a hypnotic spell, he gained the control of the young man's will power, and induced him to admit that he knew where the razor was hidden, and Walter then immediately took them to the spot and uncovered the partly buried bloody weapon, about 125 yards from the Delige home, and it was identified as Bert Delige's razor.

When this information reached the prisoner it unnerved him, for he knew that his brother had given up the incriminating evidence that seemed sure to seal his doom for the murder of Mrs. Baudis, and that he would have to pay the full penalty with his life on the gallows.

### DELIGES FULL CONFESSION.

On the following Monday the detective visited Bert Delige in the jail and spent several hours with him

further need of trying to conceal the truth, that he had taken one innocent life and that the time had come for him to make himself right. Placing his hand on the man's knee and looking him squarely in the face, the detective said, "Bert, you know you killed Mrs. Baudis, did you not?" To which he replied, "Yes, I did." He gave up and almost collapsed. There was no mysterious sweating or bulldozing—simply played square with him. Told him that it was his duty to tell the whole truth and that it was the best in the end; that his time had come to prepare for his future. He left the prisoner in a condition bordering on a nervous collapse, yet relieved that he had told the truth.

The detective advised him to have his pastor and his sister come and see him at once as he needed their comfort and consolation in his great distress and he asked that it be done. The detective went personally and urged them to go and see him at once which they did, much to his relief.

Later the same day the same detective visited the county jail, and had another interview with Bert Delige. This time his complete confession was taken before witnesses and carefully written and read to him, and he signed every sheet.

He made a full statement telling in detail everything connected with the crime, how he passed Mrs. Baudis that evening, how his brutal passion overcame him with a lustful desire to have criminal relations with the woman. That he waited for her at a secluded spot, then ran up behind her seized her, threw her in a clump of bushes, quickly covered her head with her skirt, accomplished his devilish purpose and ran away. Forgetting his hat he came back, when she said she knew who it was, and he would suffer for it next day. Then this angered the negro and he cut her throat from ear to ear with his razor.

During the taking of this written statement, Delige grew so weak that it was necessary at times to support him. Great beads of perspiration rolled from his face and body. The mental strain was too great for him to withstand and he practically collapsed. After that he was a changed man, he was ready to atone for the life he had taken.

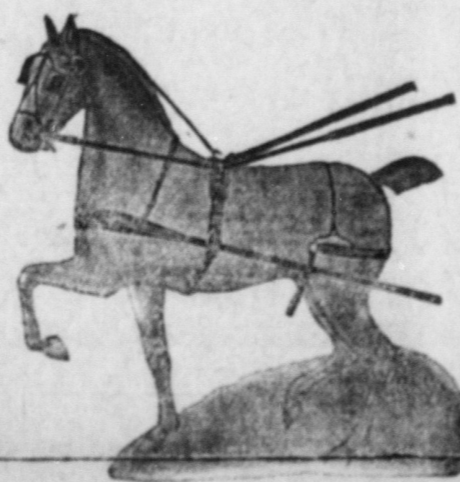
His flight from the scene was related, in a remarkable, to the minutest detail, it tallied with the trail traced out by District Attorney Runkle from his investigation. Delige assumes full responsibility for the murder and declares no one had any connection with it but himself.

After that he was visited by his pastor, his sister, his attorney, and other parties and to them he made confessions, but in none of them gave the motive for the crime, or cited the fact that he had first committed a heinous assault upon the woman, and then cut her throat from the fear of her revealing the deed.

This confession was kept as an absolute secret by the few who knew of it, for fear that if the details were made known it might make a trial almost impossible in our county; and that there was almost sufficient to incite even a riot in this community, upon the slightest provocation.

The confession made later to his attorney, Col. E. R. Chambers, was generously furnished all the papers as

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