

KILLED BY RIOTERS.

Terribly Tragic Affair Among Italian Ditch Diggers.

TWO GANGS AT WARFARE.

And One of Their Foremen, a Pittsburgher, Impaled on a Pickaxe,

TURES AND KILLS HIS ASSAILANT.

Several Men Injured and Half a Dozen Arrests Already.

THE INQUEST AND THE BAD OUTLOOK.

What promised to be a most serious riot occurred yesterday morning among the Italian laborers employed upon the new pipe line of the Monongahela National Gas Company, near Cooper's Mills, Fallfield township, Washington county, in which one man was killed and several wounded, and one was seriously. But few particulars could be learned by the *DISPATCH* reporter, who hastened from the city to the scene, as the Italians, who were almost the only witnesses, refused to talk.

As far as can be learned, the trouble originated in an argument between two rival contractors. One named George Butche, whose Pittsburgh address is Hotel Roma, 1132 Penn avenue, had a gang of 35 men employed at filling in the ditch.

At only about a dozen were needed for the work, the Superintendent, H. C. Young, ordered him to portion a portion of his men to the control of another contractor, named Joe, to be used in digging. This he refused to do, and, calling his men off, he went to the other's quarter and proceeded to insult him. One word led to another, until Butche struck Joe a severe blow in the face, whereupon the latter's gang jumped out of the ditch and started for Butche and party, who were not at all backward.

IT WAS FRIGHTFUL.

For a few minutes the battle was waged furiously; heads, arms and faces were badly cut. Finally one of Joe's men, whose name cannot be learned, rushed up behind Butche and dealt him two blows with a pickaxe, one of which crushed through the skull, and came out on the left side of his head, below the ear.

Butche wheeled instantly, and, drawing a revolver, fired into the crowd, striking a workman named Grumbatia Kiel and instantly killing him. As he fell the others ceased their warfare, and, with exclamations of horror, threw aside their weapons and fled in all directions.

Butche's assailant was struck by a shovel, and his head was laid open. He, however, took to the woods and has not been seen since.

The body of the murdered man lay on the ground from 8:30 A. M. to 5 o'clock P. M., when it was taken to Monongahela City. Butche was also taken there on the 4 o'clock train, and received medical attention. He is not expected to live.

ARRESTS WERE MADE.

Five of the ringleaders were arrested by Marshal McCleary and Constable Bohanna, and are now in jail in Monongahela City. They will receive a hearing to-day.

The Italians are terribly excited over the affair. No work was done on the ditch yesterday, and visitors to the camp were looked upon with much suspicion. A gang of 25 new workmen from Pittsburgh were expected last night, and, from all appearances, their reception was to be anything but a pleasant one.

Coroner J. F. Kennedy, of Monongahela City, has impaneled a jury, consisting of the following named citizens: J. M. Grable, F. E. Baird, W. C. Hodill, W. C. Bohanna, and B. F. Bently.

The Italians have carved a large cross on the tree where the victim fell, and performed a most peculiar religious ceremony in connection. An interpreter who tried to obtain some information for the *DISPATCH* representative was unmercifully ejected from the camp.

George Butche has merely been in the habit of boarding at the Hotel Roma, 1132 Penn avenue. He had not put in an appearance there, however, since Saturday morning, and Mr. Paton, the proprietor, stated last night that Butche's movements had been extremely uncertain.

A MARK OF APPRECIATION.

General Superintendent J. R. Patton is Tended a Banquet.

J. R. Patton, the General Superintendent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, had a banquet tendered him by the Americans Club last night at the Hotel Duquesne, as a mark of appreciation for the many kindnesses he had accorded to the first relief corps that went to Johnstown.

The hotel parlor, where the dinner was held, presented a very attractive appearance. The dining table, exquisitely decorated with a display of beautiful plants and flowers, was adorned admirably with the details of the menu.

There were ten gentlemen present beside Mr. Patton, and the evening was passed in an enjoyable manner. About 11 o'clock a piano was rolled into the room, and a musical was given as a continuation of the entertainment.

Walter Lyon, William Flynn, Harry Paul, Tom Hudson, Alexander McDaniels, James McKeen, W. S. Brown and W. H. Jones are the names of the gentlemen present with Mr. Patton.

CHLOROFORM AND ROBBERY.

Two Rather Discreet Elements Charles Smith Met With.

Last night Charles Smith, huckster, reported to Officer David Smith, of the South side force, that he had been robbed of \$35 while sleeping in Trenhauser's stable, in the Southside Diamond. He alleges that he fell asleep while waiting for his wagon to come in, and that someone chloroformed him with a saturated handkerchief. Besides the money, he had two watches in his pocket, and a gold and silver oval chain, which he also says, were taken.

The boy is said to have been committed on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

BOTH LIQUOR AND FIRTS.

The Peculiar Condition of a Lad Chased for Stealing Peanuts.

Last night a 15-year-old boy grabbed a handful of peanuts at the stand of Casper Lee, corner of Wylie avenue and High street. The proprietor chased the boy, and, at the corner of Main and Wylie, turned him over to the police, in which he was subject. It was carried into a drug store, and afterward removed to the Homeopathic Hospital, where it was discovered that the boy had been under the influence of liquor. He refused to give his name. His condition was not serious.

A TORT IS ALLEGED.

That is the Theory Upon Which the First South Fork Suit is Based—Attorney McMullen Explains.

Lewis McMullen, Esq., attorney for Mrs. John A. Little in her suit against the South Fork Fishing Club, yesterday stated the grounds on which he intends to conduct the prosecution. The members of the fishing club are, he says, individually guilty of a tort. They undertook to perform a work, and that work has proved defective. Thus every one of them is held to be guilty of negligence, and if so must pay for his guilt.

"But several members of the club," it was suggested, "had no cognizance of the defective nature of the South Fork dam. Several had never even been to South Fork."

Mr. McMullen admitted that such men were not actually guilty, and said he did not think they could be made to pay up. It was the object of the prosecution, however, to accuse all the members. Those who did not know of the inability of the dam to stand the strain could easily prove it legal. But the attorney said that men who had visited the spot could be thought to overlook the danger. Consequently all the habits of the club were, in his estimation, culpable.

Mr. McMullen intended to have filed the suit at 2:30 P. M., but didn't file it until 4:30, on Saturday last; but, of course, the time of hearing the case is as yet uncertain.

THE CENTURY PLANT.

The Rare Flowering Specimen Now in Bloom in New York City.

In view of the fact that a century plant is expected to be in bloom at the residence of Mr. Darlington, near Guguska, it may be interesting to know that a similar flower is now attracting a great deal of attention on Cortland street, New York City.

This rarely flowering plant came from the botanical garden of the large and handsome Ponca De Leon Hotel at St. Augustine, Fla. It is transplanted in a tub and was brought North on a steamship. It is now a flower of 20 inches in diameter.

The flower is composed of numerous small blossoms, each about the size of a pea, and is yellow and green. Each blossom is simply the yellow stamen hanging above the green leaves which are enclosed in a sort of sheath.

It will be remembered that a very animated controversy arose over this matter at the annual meeting two years ago, when the services of the century plant were exhibited at the Boston Horticultural Society by the donation of the system of voluntary contributions that a serious split was nearly brought about in the association.

Mr. McMullen further reported that although \$400 worth of lots were disposed of at the end of each year, excepting in 1882, when all those flowers in bloom there will be 2,800 blossoms on the plant. One cluster of about 200 blossoms is now out. It is yellow and green and each blossom is simply the yellow stamen hanging above the green leaves which are enclosed in a sort of sheath.

The century plant gets its name from the saying that it blooms once in a hundred years. But the fact is that it flowers at any time from 10 to 70 years. In Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico, where the plant grows wild, it usually blooms at the age of 25 years.

After bursting into bloom it always dies.

The flower marks the end of its life.

THE CONTRACTORS' CONVENTION.

A Number of Pittsburgh Railroad Men Will Take in the Excursion.

About one dozen Pittsburgh freight men will attend the regular annual convention of the Contracting Freight Agents' Association, to be held at Minneapolis, Minn., beginning August 21 and continuing for three days.

The convention is a series of eight meetings, each a joint session of the various contractors' associations.

It is to be hoped that local clergymen are amply able to "draw."

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HITHER AND THITHER.

Movement of Pittsburghers and Others of Wide Acquaintance.

Dr. George L. McLeod and Cadwalader Biddle, the two members of the State Board of Charity, who were in the city yesterday for the purpose of inspecting the Hirshfeld home, were entertained at the Hotel Duquesne.

In a conversation with the reporters they expressed themselves very satisfactorily with regard to the work they had seen at the penitentiary. Both gentlemen will leave to-day for Beaver county.

CAMPMEETINGS LOSE INTEREST.

A lot owner at Valley Camp chattered very freely in regard to future plans of the Valley Camp Association. It is learned that the time is not far distant when campmeetings will be discontinued at the end of the road, going over the Lawrenceville and East Liberty divisions, and inspected the power house. Mr. Rugg, who is about 70 years old, is a pleasant man.

At a very small expense a fine cemented receptacle for the large spring on the path leading to the amphitheater has been finished and a pump put down. The water is drawn from a tank with 6,000 gallons capacity, the tanks being built in a rocky ground on a hot day, using water liberally, the spring shows no indication of excessive use. Some of the ladies resident upon the grounds, among them Mrs. J. E. Porter, are agitating the project of a tennis ground, and it is quite likely that some time before long the project will be realized.

Each lot owner with a cottage is taxed \$5 per month, and Treasurer Freeman has set aside \$100 for the maintenance of the amphitheater.

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A PITTSBURG TUXEDO.

Valley Camp is to be the Coming Summer Social Resort.

CAMP MEETINGS MAY BE DROPPED.

Voluntary Contribution Worked in Connection With Retrenchments.

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

The annual business meeting of the Allegheny Valley Camping Association took place yesterday at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The meeting was rather slimly attended, only a limited number of lot owners taking part in the business of the day.

President Sampson, president, and Treasurer William Freeman read his report for the year ending July 29, 1883.

The receipts from all sources were given as \$1,449 56, and the disbursements for an identical period were \$1,199 88, leaving a balance of \$249 68.

Comparison with the receipts of the previous year, ending July 29, 1883, shows that the receipts of \$1,661 67 were very nearly equalled by the expenditures of \$1,525 24.

As the year ending yesterday was the first trial of voluntary contributions at the campmeetings as against the practice of charging a regular admission fee at the gate, the advocates of the abolishment of gate fees are much gratified by the fact that the new method showed a substantial balance in the treasury of the association.

It will be remembered that the services of the Fidelity's New Quarters.

Appreciative Visitors on the Occasion of the Opening.

The magnificent new bank and safe deposit of the Fidelity Title and Trust Company, on Penn avenue, was formally opened for business yesterday. It is a revelation in the line of commodious arrangements and elegant appointments. Hundreds of visitors, business men and others, besides those directly interested in the success of the institution, called during the day, and the services last night consisted of singing in the choirs and a service "Salvation" by Faith.

To-day's prayer meeting will be led by Rev. L. McGuire, and the sermon at 7:30 P. M. will be delivered by Rev. T. J. Leahy, pastor of the North Avenue M. E. Church.

THE FIDELITY'S NEW QUARTERS.

Mr. Parsons, of Birmingham, England, is visiting a relative here.