

IT'S A REAL DISEASE.

The Passion for Notoriety Is Probably a Form of Insanity.

AND IT IS CONTAGIOUS, TOO.

A Philosopher Was at the Bottom of the Law for Electrocuting.

HIS THEORY BADLY UPSET, HOWEVER.

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.)
New York, Aug. 8.—Is the passion for notoriety a disease? The question every now and then forcibly obtrudes itself on the thinking public. It arises from the foul slums where the tough glories in the newspaper exploitation of his criminal career; from the scaffold where, even in the face of death itself, men pose for public effect; from every stratum of human life, the lowest to the highest.

This State officially recognized it as a disease when it sought by a stringent law to prevent the publication of the particulars of an execution by electricity. The private execution of criminals not only recognizes the fact that the love of notoriety is a disease, but that it is an infectious disease, readily spreading to those coming in familiar contact with the advanced stages. The civilized world was a long time in coming to this conclusion, but it finally did conclude that public executions, as well as pecuniary and other forms of punishment, are so far from acting as a discouragement to crime had exactly the contrary effect.

ONE RESULT OF CIVILIZATION.
By degrees a higher civilization is coming to treat the love of notoriety as a disease that, like an abnormal love of strong drink, frequently leads to the commission of crime. Love of notoriety is apparently a mental and moral affliction, which shows itself in a one-horse politician, a man hunting newspaper offices for personal notices, a prize fighter, a sensational preacher, a school teacher, a doctor, a condemned murderer, the disorder apparently attacks the same fibers of the brain. Whatever direction it assumes is largely a question of environment. The bigger fool he is the more he attracts public attention and the more rapidly he achieves the object of his ambition. The biggest fools in public life have invariably divided honors with the wisest statesmen. If he is posted as a "crack," the disease leads him on to the verge of the insane asylum. If he is of criminal surroundings, it pushes him into deeper and more horrible crimes.

IN RELIGION AND POLITICS.
If he is a devout man or a minister of the gospel, it inspires him with extravagant notions of religion, sensational utterances from the pulpit, or with an uncontrollable longing for new doctrines. If he is a politician, he wants to be a road supervisor, or chairman of convention, or vice president or secretary of the meeting, or a speaker—anything that will put his name into the reports and prominently before the people. The disease so permeates public life that it is the most difficult problem in politics to successfully grapple with. Ninety per cent of all those engaged in the struggle for political preferment are suffering acutely from the insidious disease—the other ten per cent plan for its cure.

Once in a while some conspicuous case arises, like the slaying of President Garfield by Guitman, that for the time being challenges the attention of the world. That assassin was hanged while in the last stages of the disease, notoriety—which stage verges so closely upon insanity that experts are unable to agree upon the point whether the sufferer is responsible for his acts or not. Occasionally it appears in a most novel and incomprehensible form, such as in the case of one Sumner, of this city, who has reached an almost world-wide fame as the mysterious identifier of mysterious dead people.

MAN WHO IDENTIFIES THE DEAD.
In this latter case we have a man, a very shrewd and well educated man, who voluntarily assumed the responsibility of identifying the body of an unknown dead man, and constructed such an ingenious theory of the relations between an unknown and a known person that the mystery fairly baffled the wits of the entire detective force of two States and involved the metropolitan newspapers in the meshes of contradictory circumstances. He sacrificed business and honor, and was subjected to all sorts of calumnious insinuations with a morbid sort of success, accountable only on the hypothesis of an acute case of this terrible disease.

That it is this and nothing more I was early assured by one who knows the sinner well. Nobody but one with the desperate enthusiasm and cunning of a lunatic could have so long successfully played such a part. It was only because the newspapers and law officers proceeded on the usually safe presumption that their man had some pecuniary or other criminal interest in the matter that of record of the disease of notoriety that they could have been so completely hoodwinked. And it was only after columns upon columns had been expended upon the case, after the wits of the whole civilized world had borne evidence of the controversy, and after the principal character had begun new theories on new dead bodies, that the public began to suspect the real complaint from which this man suffered.

THE DISEASE IS CONTAGIOUS.
That at this advanced stage of the disease it is highly contagious is evidenced by the fact that other similar identifiers appeared upon the first unknown dead body heralded by the press. One young man identified the body of a young woman, at his wife and offered to pay the funeral expenses, though within 48 hours he was completely exposed by his own father. In this case, too, the great and only original identifier appeared upon the scene. Half a dozen of his imitations came at once to the front. Just as the London "Jack the Ripper" was followed by other rippers in every land and clime. So, in recognition of this peculiar phase of human nature and the crying need of remedial legislation, a venerable philosopher of this city conceived the idea of notoriety in the electrical execution law. He considered the subject I don't know how many days and nights, and finally appealed to the New York Legislature. In the meantime he arrived at the logical conclusion that if the chief cause of notoriety could be quarantined, so to speak, the danger of infection would be reduced to a minimum.

TRYING TO MUZZLE THE PRESS.
But inasmuch as this cause is unquestionably the newspaper press of the country, that will go so recklessly printing the names and exploits of people without regard to moral and physical results, and that these same agents for the dissemination of the poisonous seeds of notoriety are extremely jealous of their rights, without regard to proceed with great caution. In conjunction with other philosophers and philanthropists, he resolved to begin at the source of the disease. The top survey of all criminals was in the legitimate individual through whom to experiment on the public morals—would be the rabbit of the philanthropical vivisectionist. If they could make the thing work by quarantining the public against notoriety in the case of executions, the remedy could be gradually applied to lower criminals, and eventually to politics and society in every form. There is besides a subtle sympathy between the diseased imaginations and the murderer which renders any intelligence concerning the last hours of the latter a highly dangerous compound. And the more inflammable the intelligence the more elaborately the newspaper press is inclined

to spread it. In the opinion of the select coterie of philosophers, this should be headed off; otherwise it would soon be next to impossible for a good man to get his name in print, and the dread disease, notoriety, would prompt all sorts of peculiar crimes, as that is already, practically, the only show an individual has for being known at all.

THE SECRET OF ELECTROCUTION.
It was therefore decided that a law by the operation of which a condemned murderer could be made to disappear from sight and mind forever when he entered a certain room in prison would be the correct thing. The criminal must be absolutely lost to the world at an indefinite time. The man could be struck by well regulated lightning and be buried in quick lime, and nothing should be said of how he met his end. A law was accordingly passed, and the philosophers went home satisfied that notoriety was nipped in the bud so far as a murderer in this State was concerned. For who would care to be killed by legal enactment if there was no chance to pose before a well-informed public? Nobody. At least, it would materially lessen capital crimes for that reason; and it would lessen criminals by preventing the spread of unwholesome news.

But goodness, gracious me! What a wide difference there is in moral theories and practical results in this world. There never was a man, not excepting even "Sumner, the Identifier, who lived longer and more gloriously in the public eye than that miserable, ignorant, vulgar wife murderer, Kemmler. And there never was a hero who died on the field of battle fighting for his country since the world began who got such extended, circumstantial and splendidly written accounts of his death.

GOING TO PUNISH THE EDITORS.
All the lawyers, scientists, philosophers, philanthropists and newspapers in the country took hold of his case and pulled it up and down, twisted, tangled and tied it up so in the courts and got it so befuddled that the poor wretch finally said he was glad it was all over. He'd rather be killed than fight off and by any method than have any more fuss about it. So at last he sat in the chair and was consumed by quick lime and the newspapers. Well, they did give him an everlasting good send off. Even the assassin of the President of the United States received no more public attention than this course and ignorant woman slayer. That is the way the notoriety quarantine law worked.

But those confounded papers are to be prosecuted, and the philanthropic philosophers who have charge of the morals of the people of this country will see to it that the editors are fined and imprisoned according to statute. Then we will stop this thing of printing the names of people in the newspapers, and thereby insulating them with the poison of notoriety and making them vain fools and encouraging crime and criminals. Let the good work go on.

CHARLES THEODORE MURRAY.
TO-KA-LON removes scale, dandruff, irritation and itching of the scalp.

ELLWOOD and return, 25c. See "ad." on tenth page.
Excursion to the Ocean.
The B. & O. R. R. will run their next special Atlantic City excursion Thursday, August 13. Special trains leave at 8:15 A. M. and 9:20 P. M. Rate, \$10 the round trip; tickets good for 10 days and good to stop at Washington City returning.

ELLWOOD and return, 25c. See "ad." on tenth page.
BADGES for lodges and societies at McMahon Bros. & Adams', 92 Fourth avenue.

ELLWOOD and return, 25c. See "ad." on tenth page.
TO-KA-LON produces a peach and cream complexion and heals sunburn.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
DUQUESNE
PITTSBURG'S LEADING THEATER
DAVID HENDERSON & JOHN W. MORTON MANAGERS.

COOLED BY ICED AIR.
Crowded to Its Capacity.
COMMENCING
Monday, Aug 10,

—THE—
GARROW OPERA
COMPANY

THE MIKADO
An Elaborate Production!
A Great Cast!
All the Favorites!
Magnificent Mounting!
Augmented Chorus!
Brilliant Accessories!

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Evenings and Saturday Matinee.

THE MIKADO
BY GENERAL REQUEST,
Friday and Saturday Evenings,
—THE—
BOHEMIAN GIRL.

RESERVED SEATS, 25c, 50c, 75c.
Week of Aug. 17—ERMINIE.
Monday, Aug. 17—Turner's English Specty Company.

POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE.
Under the Direction of R. M. Gulick & Co.
MATINEES: WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
Bijou THEATRE
WEEK AUG. 10.
A CURE FOR THE BLUES!
LAUGH AND MAKE YOURSELF COOL!
SEE BOBBY GAYLOR
As the latest edition of an everyday Irishman in

SPORT M'ALLISTER!
ONE OF THE 400.
A PANDEMONIUM OF SHRIEKING LAUGHTER.
WEEK AUG. 17:
"The Limited Mail."
Bijou PRICES 75-50-25
RESERVED SEATS

HARRY WILLIAMS' ACADEMY
Opens for the Season
Monday Evening, August 10.
Matinee Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Everything New, Bright and Cheerful.
New Drop Curtain! New Company!
New Faces and New Features!

THE AMERICAN
4
ELECTRIC STAR
VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
20—SPECIAL ACTS—20.
Monday, Aug. 17—Turner's English Specty Company.
The American Four.
The Salambo.
The Electric Stars.
The Emmottis.
Robt. and Kitty.
Crimmins and Taylor.
McGonigle and Joyce.
Irish Piper and Dancer.
The 3 Rackets Bros.
Eddie Quinn.
The Harmonican Wonder.
Miss Besse Searl.
Val Vino.
Thompson and Johnson.
\$12 00.
This special sale terminates on the 23d of August.
\$2 50 to \$5 00 will buy the very best of made-up-to-order trousers. They are worth from \$5 to \$15.
Next to Mellon's Bank.

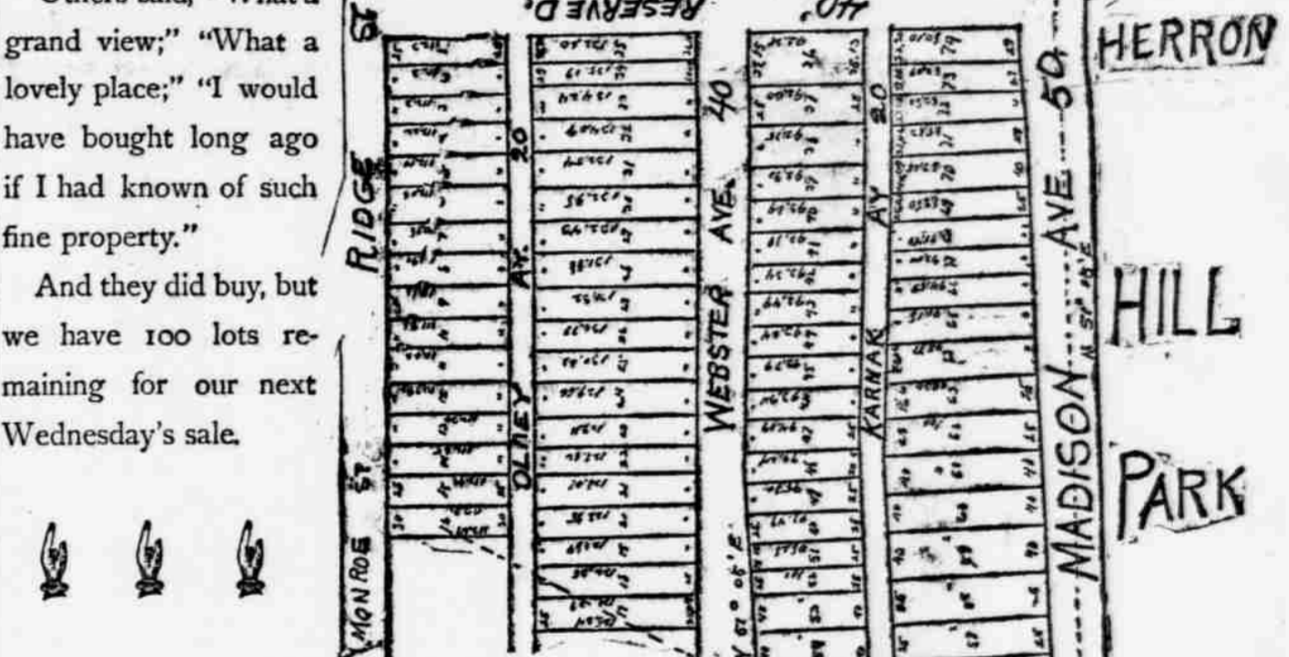
GRAND AUCTION SALE OF HERRON HILL LOTS!

Herron Hill Park, Webster Av., Madison Av., Ridge Av. and Cambridge St., WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, AT 2 P. M.
Only 15 minutes' ride by Wylie Avenue Cable Road from Fifth Avenue and Wood Street.

TERMS: \$10 DOWN; BALANCE, \$2 PER WEEK.
DESCRIPTION:

Herron Hill Park is the highest point in Allegheny county, and the view from these lots is truly magnificent. In one direction a full view is had of the Allegheny river sparkling in the sunlight, and further on the hills and valleys of Reserve township. In the other direction can be seen Lawrenceville, Ben Venue, East Liberty, while still further to the south can be seen Fifth avenue and the beautiful verdure-covered hills of the Twenty-second and Twenty-third wards. No malaria can rise to the height of these lots, so that purchasers can be assured of the healthy location. By examining a map it will be seen that this is really the center of the city. It is surrounded by Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, Ben Venue and Bellefield. By the Wylie avenue cable road it is only fifteen minutes' ride from Fifth avenue and Wood street. The time being so short, all who desire will have ample time to go home for dinner. We predict values will soon rise as high as Shadyside or Roup so soon as the advantages are known, and the improvements on the Park by the city will still further increase the value.

AT our sale last Saturday one man said he went up with the intention of buying one lot, but when he saw such a charming place for a house he decided to buy four. Others said, "What a grand view;" "What a lovely place;" "I would have bought long ago if I had known of such fine property." And they did buy, but we have 100 lots remaining for our next Wednesday's sale.



On Webster avenue and Madison avenue we offer the choicest lots, many of them being perfectly level, with good surroundings, just the place for nice homes, with pure air, nicely elevated ground, and quick time to and from the city, and is the right place for Business Men, Clerks and Salesmen to build their homes.

BETTER THAN A SAVINGS BANK.

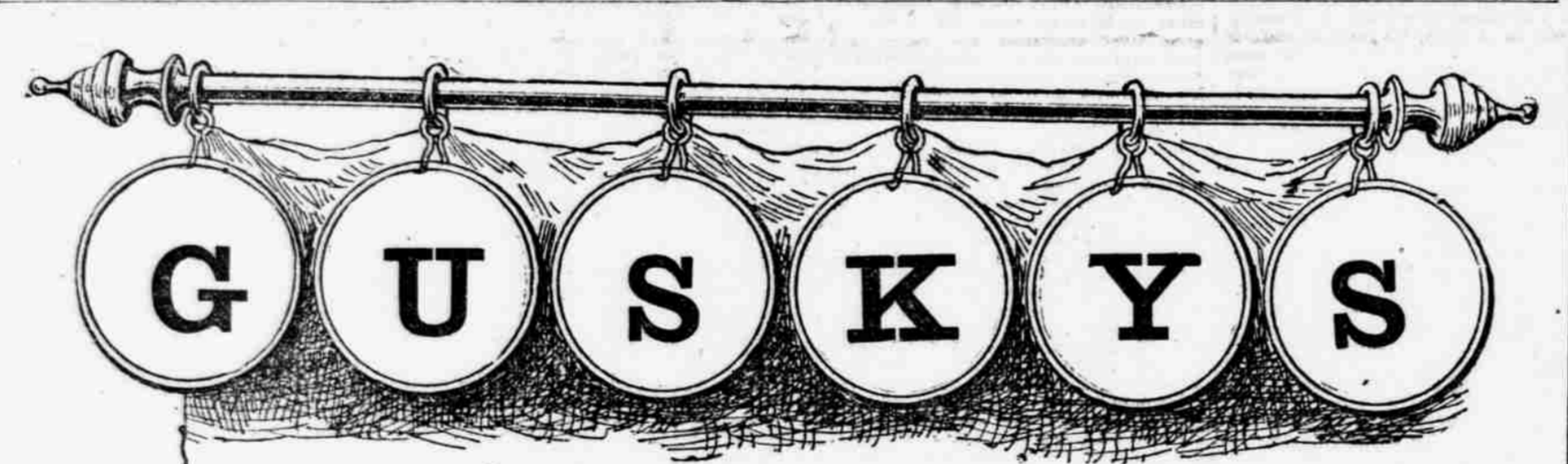
As real estate never runs away, no better use can be made of savings than to buy one or more lots. Not only is the money safe, but the increase in value, as the city grows, is very great.
A CHANCE FOR THE CAPITALIST.

There is a great want for houses for rent and sale in this portion of the city, and this property is the very place for them. A handsome profit is sure to be realized. Remember, these lots are really in the heart of the city, convenient to the Wylie avenue cable road, and are not miles away in the country, so that great increase in value is sure to come.
TERMS OF SALE:

TEN DOLLARS is to be paid down on each lot at time of sale, the balance to be paid at the rate of TWO DOLLARS (2) and interest per week or as much more as desired. Five (5) per cent discount will be allowed on all cash sales. All sales will be made FREE OF TAXES FOR THIS YEAR. The purchaser to assume the payment of street and sewer improvements. Interest on deferred payments can be paid monthly. Deed to be delivered when one hundred dollars and interest is paid, balance to be secured by common bond and tight mortgage with six (6) per cent interest.

HOW TO GET THERE:
Take Wylie avenue cable cars to the Car House at the end of the line, then go up Thirty-third street one square to Webster avenue, and then up Webster avenue to the property. Remember, the sale takes place on the lots WEDNESDAY, August 12, at 2 P. M. Call at our office for free tickets on Wylie Avenue Cable Cars.

BLACK & BAIRD, 95 FOURTH AVENUE.



SECOND WEEK OF THE GREAT CLEAN-UP SALE.

And we are going to make it a gala week: In going over the stock, we find stacks of goods still here which must go—excellent values, but they must go. Now, while we are holding our annual house cleaning, is your time to save money. It will pay you to buy for future needs, for this is one of the greatest after-season sales ever held in this town.

Special Values in Men's fine Suits
Our bargains in Men's Clothing will catch your eye, please your mind, satisfy your judgment and fit your purse. Beginning as low as \$20 for Union Worsteds Suits, we are offering bargains never before thought of in the clothing business. The special prices extend to the finest suits in the stock no less than to the cheap goods.

Special Values in Men's Pants.
You have cleared up during the week a great many of the special bargains we offered at the beginning. This has compelled us to reduce a great many of the higher-price goods, and we shall offer during the present week some booming part bargains. A pair of extra pants are always handy; now's the time to get them cheap.

Special Values in Summer Cloth'g
The special prices extend to the finest suits in the stock no less than to the cheap goods.

Special Values in Boys' Clothing.
You have cleared up during the week a great many of the special bargains we offered at the beginning. This has compelled us to reduce a great many of the higher-price goods, and we shall offer during the present week some booming part bargains. A pair of extra pants are always handy; now's the time to get them cheap.

Special Values in Child's Cloth'g
The special prices extend to the finest suits in the stock no less than to the cheap goods.

Special Values in Neckwear.
"Blest be the tie that binds." So says the hymn. Our ties bind, too; they bind the customer to us for neckwear. You'll find some very binding bargains in this line at the present time. We are going to close out our stock of summer neckwear, cost what it may. Our whole 49c line of Tecks are reduced to 25c. Take this as a sample of reductions all around.

Special Values in Underwear.
"Blest be the tie that binds." So says the hymn. Our ties bind, too; they bind the customer to us for neckwear. You'll find some very binding bargains in this line at the present time. We are going to close out our stock of summer neckwear, cost what it may. Our whole 49c line of Tecks are reduced to 25c. Take this as a sample of reductions all around.

Special Values in Neglige Shirts.
"Blest be the tie that binds." So says the hymn. Our ties bind, too; they bind the customer to us for neckwear. You'll find some very binding bargains in this line at the present time. We are going to close out our stock of summer neckwear, cost what it may. Our whole 49c line of Tecks are reduced to 25c. Take this as a sample of reductions all around.

Our Illustrated Paper for August is now ready for mailing. Send your address and get a copy of it. It's as funny as Puck and as truthful as the Bible.
GUSKY'S 300 TO 400 MARKET STREET.