

### BUNKOED A FARMER.

#### A Pleasant Stranger Cuts His Pocket and Relieves Him of Nearly \$900.

### AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME.

#### Forgery Leads to the Detection of a New Geneva Robber.

### FRATRICIDE JOE GENT IN TOWN.

#### Cook Hall, Arrested for Robbing Postoffices, Placed in Jail.

### A SON USES A HATCHET ON HIS FATHER

Sam F. Ritter hails from Ohio. He is only a plain cattle dealer, so he says; not very wealthy, still rich enough to get along without the immediate aid of any of his friends. He reached the city early on Saturday morning with a roll amounting to about \$500. When he left this morning for Portland, Me., he was \$384 short of that sum.

About 9 o'clock yesterday morning Ritter left the Central Hotel for the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie depot, on the Southside. Midway on the Smithfield street bridge a young gentleman in the nearest manner politely asked him for the time. The request was acceded to at once, and Mr. Ritter proceeded on his way. He had gone but very few steps when the prepossessing stranger touched the gentleman on the shoulder and asked him: "Have we not met before?" Ritter was not quite positive, but was willing to establish the fact. The stranger was willing to convince him, and he did.

#### A Little Confidential Chat.

The stranger incidentally mentioned that he was a pudler lately employed by the Carnegie Company, but his principle prevented him working for the company under present circumstances. The gentleman from Ohio didn't mind telling his newly acquainted friend that he went to Clyde, O., 15 months ago and had made considerable money in that time, and that he was now on his way to Portland, Me., where he had on Saturday shipped 28 cars of fine cattle and six cars of blooded stock.

The stranger was delighted to hear all this, and by the time the gentleman got through reciting his business successes the new friend had reached the other end of the bridge. Through the merest accident stranger No. 1 met stranger No. 2, and promptly introduced him to the man from Ohio. The meeting was a pleasant one, and after a few minutes' conversation Ritter made known the fact that he was after a trunk.

Both gentlemen at once volunteered to attend to the matter, and accompanied their unsuspecting friend to the baggage department. Here stranger No. 1 excused himself for a few moments. After having his trunk attended to stranger No. 2 helped his Ohio friend through the throng and excused himself also. He said he would return in a few moments, and impressed upon Ritter the absolute necessity of his waiting for him.

#### His Pocket Was Cut Out.

Mr. Ritter worried for an hour over the absence of his kind young friends, when it struck him that he ought to return to the hotel. When he reached the toll house on the bridge he divined into his right hand pocket for his purse. It had gone. He searched every pocket he had in his clothes, but no purse was to be seen. Searching at his trousers, he saw that the pocket had been finely cut across. It had been done with a keenly-pointed instrument, and by an artist in his line. "In an instant," said the gentleman from the farm, "I saw it all. It happened to have about \$30 in his inside vest pocket, so he paid his bridge toll. Then he went to the office of the Superintendent of Police and related his story there. Superintendent O'Mara put two detectives on the case at once. There were \$380 in bills and \$4 in silver in the pocket-book. Besides this, promissory notes amounting to over \$500 nestled in the purse.

When talking of the case last evening Mr. Ritter said he had a certain experience in Buffalo, N. Y., last year. On that occasion he was held up, but fought his man. During the encounter his left wrist was badly cut, several of the veins being severed by a knife. His mother had taught him from childhood to read a certain verse from one of the chapters of St. John, in case of his receiving any wound. To this verse, though he could not exactly quote it last evening, did his mind wander back then. It had scarcely finished reading it when the blood stopped flowing and the wound healed.

### FRATRICIDE GENT IN TOWN.

The fratricide visits the scene of his un-pleasant crime. Joseph Gent, who killed his brother Frank at their home on Thirteenth street recently, turned up in town again last evening looking the picture of misery and despair. A scant beard covered his face, and he still wore a mustache. He looked tired and hungry when seen in the East End, and seemed as if fatigued and restlessness had already gotten in their work upon his system.

Gent appeared to be very sickly, and wore a light brown overcoat. A small brown satchel was all he carried in his hand, and the weight of it even seemed too much for him. Several acquaintances of the murderer met him in the upper part of town during the evening, and somebody gave the tip to the police.

#### A Short Time Later Each Officer Was Notified.

As they reported from the box stations, of Gent's presence in town. Every man on the force was instructed to keep a sharp lookout for him. He was at his motor car home, on Thirteenth street, where he committed his unnatural crime, last evening, and had a wordy war with that parent. He packed his valise with some clean clothing and left. He changed his brown overcoat for a black one. When he left the house his mother notified the police. They are now diligently searching for the murderer.

#### An Ungrateful Boy.

Mrs. Kate Emmerling of West Liberty borough, made information before Judge Suceop against Frank Tone for larceny. She had left the office a few minutes when she saw young Tone on the street. She made a dash for him, and after capturing, took him to the office. She claimed that she had adopted Tone, who repaid her kindness by stealing a watch and running away. He was locked up in the Twenty-eighth ward police station.

#### Shot His Brother in the Arm.

John and Solomon Abbey, two brothers, were arrested in Millvale last evening, the former charged with felonious assault and battery and carrying concealed weapons. The men had a fight, and John shot Sol in the arm.

#### Lot of Ice Cream Stolen.

The stable and warehouse of Kuhn Bros., the East End confectioners, was broken into

### COOK HALL IN JAIL.

The Sensational Murder of Emma Foster Revived—Hall Claims Residence in Pittsburgh—Robbed 50 Postoffices—Part of a Desperate Gang of Robbers Captured.

M. C. Hall, better known here as "Cook" Hall, who shot and killed Emma Foster in a house on Second avenue in the winter of 1880, was placed in jail in this city last night by three United States marshals. Two other prisoners accompanied him, Thomas, alias Robert Hughes, and George C. Raymond, alias J. P. Smith, alias Mike Coleman.

Hall has the aliases of Clyde P. Hamilton, and G. C. Hunter. The prisoners are all indicted for breaking into a postoffice, in McKean county, and are to be tried in the District Court next Monday. The prisoners are a part of a gang charged with the robbery of at least 50 postoffices between Cleveland and Atlanta. Only these three of the gang have been caught.

Hall and Coleman were captured last spring. Their arrest was brought about by Hall, who, while acting as banker in a poker game at Johnston, skipped out with some money and was arrested in McKean county for theft. Subsequently he was identified, taken in hand by the Secret Service officers and placed in the Erie jail. Coleman had been arrested as an accomplice of Hall's and was also held by the United States authorities.

It was not until two months ago that Hall's identity as Cook Hall, of this city, was suggested. A number of persons who were supposed to know Cook Hall failed to identify him among them. Robert O'Mara, who went to Erie for that purpose.

The United States authorities, however, claim that he is, and say that he has been out of prison but about a year, and during that time has been a member of this gang of postoffice robbers. At the jail he gave his residence as this city, his age as 41 years, and his occupation that of a clerk.

Hughes claims Butler as his home. He is 40 years old and an oil driller by occupation. Coleman's home is in Detroit. They are all handsome men and were well-dressed when placed in jail.

### THE CHECK BETRAYED HIM.

Joseph A. Nixon Arrested for Robbing a New Geneva Merchant of \$300 in Money, Notes and Checks—Short Acquaintance Friend Caught.

Joseph Nixon, a steamboat engineer, was arrested yesterday by Detective Murphy charged with stealing \$300 in money, notes and checks from R. T. Williams, of New Geneva. Nixon is well connected. He lives in Hazelwood. His connection with the robbery was discovered in a peculiar way. The robbery occurred on Thursday night last.

On Friday last Nixon was introduced by Elmer Donley to Frank Bayley, of Bayley's cafe, at R. T. Williams. Immediately after being introduced Nixon asked to be introduced to a bank where he could get a check cashed. Mr. Bayley took him to the Duquesne bank, where he got \$39 on a check. The check reached its rightful owner on Monday. The case was then reported to Detective Murphy, who wrote descriptions of both men and yesterday arrested both. Donley was released after establishing that he had met Nixon but an hour before he introduced him to Mr. Bayley.

Nixon was sent to jail in default of \$2,000 bail, charged with robbery and forgery. His case will be presented to the grand jury this morning.

### SUPERINTENDENT O'MARA TALKS.

He Says the Police Department Is Holding Up Its End.

When asked last evening about the number of robberies of recent occurrence Superintendent O'Mara said very little could be done in any of the cases. For two months there had been but one robbery until yesterday morning, and that was a minor case. The police, he thought, could hardly guarantee protection to drunken men who went to sleep in the street. They would do all they could, but when a man was entirely ignorant of the time and place he was robbed, it was impossible for the police to do anything. There was little chance for the officers to work the case. The taking of a diamond from a house on First avenue, he said, was not a robbery at all. The woman who allowed people in her home to take a valuable diamond and depart in peace, could hardly be expected to have officers chasing all over town searching for people to whose identity they had no clue. Of the recent robberies at Mornington, he said, he had no information. Not long ago two men who have been in the business for a number of years wanted to come on this road. They presented themselves and said they had always worked on a farm. Both men got good positions. One of them was a conductor for 13 years. He heard of the "farmer" policy before he applied for work. To get around this a recommendation from a country justice of the peace was produced. He is now collecting fares on the Fifth avenue line.

### FORMING A TRUST.

Tablet Makers Going Into a Combination to Get Better Prices.

The tablet and blank paper manufacturers have caught the combination fever. Yesterday about a dozen makers met at the Anderson to form a trust. It is the old story of too much competition and not enough profit, of ruinous rate cutting and other sundry evils. They discussed articles of agreement all day, and will continue the good work this morning when they expect the organization will be completed. They passed a resolution not to take the public and especially the newspapers into their confidence. One of the manufacturers, a venerable old man with a kind face, acted as spokesman. He refused to tell anything, but said they might have something to say to-day. He declined even to state what business they are engaged in, but this and the object of the meeting were learned from another source. He was not sure that anything would be accomplished, and they may go home to think it over for awhile.

Those present were Oscar Heller, Buffalo; H. P. Dayton, Quincy, Ill.; Samuel Johnson, W. W. White, R. W. Burns, E. L. Hughes, Dayton; O. L. Garner, Roaring Springs; Samuel L. Knight, New York; E. McAffric and J. C. Blair, Huntington.

### THE BIENNIAL MEETING.

Locomotive Engineers and Firemen to Consider Mutual Interests.

The biennial meeting of the locomotive engineers and firemen will be held at the St. Charles this week, beginning this morning and continuing for five days. Delegates from all the States and Territories will attend, and about 100 representatives are expected. Chief Sargent, of the Firemen's Brotherhood, will be here to-night, and Chief Arthur will arrive from Cleveland to-morrow. The last session was held in Los Angeles. The two organizations are very powerful and closely affiliated. A number of matters of interest to both brotherhoods will be considered. Those who came in yesterday declined to talk of what would be done, but they were positive no action would be taken on the question of wages. The men haven't much complaint to make on that score. The delegates registered at the St.

### KNOCKED ON THE HEAD.

A Father Badly Hurt by His Son Who Hit Him With a Hatchet.

William H. Kello, who lives on Rosetta street, and his son quarreled yesterday. The boy turned on his father and struck the old man two blows on the head with a hatchet. The skull was not fractured, but he fell to the floor bleeding profusely. The son fled without waiting to learn the result of his work, and has not been caught.

#### The neighbors were attracted by the noise.

coming from Kello's house, and searched for a pool of blood. They were told that a man had been killed, and did not go to his aid, but notified Officer Adair. He found that he was still alive. He sent for the patrol wagon, and the injured man was taken to No. 5 police station. Kello was very weak from the loss of blood. He refused to enter suit against his son, or to tell his first name or where he worked, saying that he held no ill will against the boy. Shortly after he left for home. The police are on the lookout for his son, and hope to have him in case Kello's wounds prove fatal.

#### Arrested for Stealing Blankets.

Thomas McAvooy and William Woolsey were arrested last evening at 904 Fifth avenue on information received that they were peddling stolen blankets. When their boarding house was searched a number of pawn tickets, several revolvers, a couple of fine woolen blankets, several knives and several other articles were found. Both men claim they worked in Homestead for a time.

### BRAKE BEAM COMBINE.

The Manufacturers of the Steel Product Consolidate.

### TABLET MAKERS FORM A TRUST.

Crescent Steel Company Demands a 10 Per Cent Reduction.

### PAXSON'S CHARGE SCARES HOMESTEAD

The Steel Brake Beam Manufacturers of the country have consolidated their interests with a capital stock of \$2,500,000. There is also a chance that the concern will be centralized in Pittsburgh.

This is a new industry. It was first started about three years ago, but the business has grown wonderfully. Even with the demand for beams, this industry has been kept in the hands of a few. There are only four manufacturers. They are the Michigan Supply Company, Detroit; Northwestern Equipment Company, Chicago; Universal Brake Beam Company, St. Louis, and the Schoen Press Steel Brake Beam Company, of Allegheny.

The representatives from these four companies recently met in Detroit and there formed the combination. Its purpose is to bring about a uniformity of price and reduction of expenses. The move will not go into effect until October 15. The general offices of the combine will be in Chicago for a time.

William H. Schoen, Secretary of the Allegheny concern, was seen yesterday. "The details of the consolidation," said he, "have not all been arranged yet. The combine is formed, however. We have not elected officers yet, but will do so very soon. The largest plant of the combine is at Detroit, and no changes will be made for a year. Then the four works will be run as one. The product of the combine is a very good chance of getting it here. The location is good and the advantages better than in the West. The combination was not made with a view to putting the price up. I am going tonight on business connected with the consolidation."

The industry was brought about by the use of airbrakes on freight cars. Before airbrakes were used on freight trains large wooden beams were used to hold the cars together. With the introduction of this system of braking, the wooden beams were not strong enough to stand the strain. The steel beam was thought to be a very uncertain venture, but instead it has proved a great success. The demand is increasing rapidly and Mr. Schoen said yesterday that he thought they would soon be used on every freight car.

### SPOTTERS AT WORK.

They Are Now Watching the Conductors on the Fifth Avenue Line.

There are "spotters" on the Fifth avenue street car line again. A DISPATCH reporter was last night riding on one of the cars in company with an employe of the road. Presently a man came in and took seat opposite. The car was well filled and the conductor was busy ringing up fares. The reporter's companion watched the new comer for a little while and then said, "He is a 'spotter.' There are but few conductors on the road who are not onto him. He has been doing business here so long that it is about time for the company to change him."

"The road has some very poor conductors now. The officials have adopted a plan which they think will give them honest men. During the past summer men have been taken from the city and others from agricultural districts put on. Indeed, a man who has been in the street car business any length of time cannot get employment on the Fifth avenue line. I know this has been evidenced. Not long ago two men who have been in the business for a number of years wanted to come on this road. They presented themselves and said they had always worked on a farm. Both men got good positions. One of them was a conductor for 13 years. He heard of the "farmer" policy before he applied for work. To get around this a recommendation from a country justice of the peace was produced. He is now collecting fares on the Fifth avenue line."

### STILL SEEKING JOINT DEBATE.

Candidate Breen and Chairman Gripp Have Some Correspondence on the Subject.

James W. Breen, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Twenty-second district, is still on a quest for Congressman Dalzell, the Republican candidate, with a view to opening a "night school" for instruction for voters upon the effects of the tariff. A formal correspondence passed between Mr. Breen and Chairman Gripp last week upon the subject. Chairman Gripp stated that he considered Candidate Breen's idea of a joint discussion a good one, but Mr. Dalzell was out of town and a meeting could not be arranged until his return. The proposed joint debate would attract a large attendance, as while the Democratic candidate is better known for his powers with the pen than upon the stump, he is eager for the fray. On the other hand, Congressman Dalzell is recognized as one of the ablest debaters in the country. The biggest question at hand is the tariff, and half of the people who would want to hear this debate if it goes on. It would discount anything in the way of torchlight processions or one-sided meetings that the manager can get up to attract public attention.

### THE MAYOR DETERMINED.

Against Police Discrimination in Illegal Liquor Selling.

Chief Brown yesterday requested a postponement for a few days of the conference desired by the Mayor relative to the enforcement of the liquor laws in the disorderly establishments on the downtown business. Several influential people called on the Mayor and endeavored to persuade him to abandon the idea, but His Honor was obdurate. He says that if one citizen making claim to respectability in other respects is not allowed by the police to sell liquor without a license, a person next door, making no claims of decency or respectability, should be given the advantage of such a privilege.

The Mayor not only thinks the disreputable class in the downtown district should be prevented from selling liquor, but he is sympathetic with the idea that their presence is necessary.

### Colored Laborers at the Elba Works.

A carload of 49 colored laborers were brought to the Elba Iron Works yesterday. They were said to have come from Chattanooga, Tenn. When they got off the train a large crowd of locked-out union men surrounded the car, but they were allowed to enter the mill unmolested.

### Austin Won't Be a Martyr.

John H. Armstrong, the Republican nominee in the Fourth Legislative district, having decided not to accept the nomination, the delegates must make another choice. They will meet for this purpose at Republican headquarters Thursday evening. This is the Democratic district of the county.

### Hurt in a Collision.

A Mt. Troy car collided with a wagon of the Ahlers Lumber Company yesterday, corner First and Perry street, Allegheny. August Hesse, the driver, had a shoulder dislocated and was internally injured. One of the horses was badly hurt.

### A Prohibition Meeting.

The Prohibitionists of Duquesne Heights will hold a meeting on Grandview avenue, near the incline, on Wednesday evening, to be addressed by Hon. B. S. Taylor, of Iowa. Mr. Kennedy, the cornetist, will furnish the music for the occasion.

### 12000 Gallions—12000

Guns are the best, their diamonds, watches and jewelry the most, and their musical goods are not to be excelled. At the old stand, No. 1200 Penn avenue.

### EVERY penny tells—You can get Salvation Oil for 25 cents. Best liniment in the market.

#### Don't Take the Risk

Of fire or thieves, but keep your valuable papers, bonds, etc. in the safe deposit vaults of the Farmers' Deposit National Bank, 65 Fourth avenue. Boxes rented at \$3 a year and upward.

#### Opening

Fall display of ladies' costumes, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 11-12, at 217 1/2 E. Liberty street.

#### De Witt's Little Early Risers.

No gripping no pain, no nausea; easy pill to take.

#### Here's a how-do-do

When affairs look blue, DISPATCH ads with expedition Will secure a good position, And do it cheaply, too.

### WANT A COMPROMISE.

Allegheny's Street Railways Ready to Settle With the City.

### A POINTED LETTER SUBMITTED.

The Statute of Limitation May Be Invoked in the Case.

### FIFTEEN DAYS FOR CONSIDERATION

The sub-committee of the Allegheny Finance Committee held another interesting meeting last night. The principal matter discussed was the tax on the cars and dividends of the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Traction Company. After a thorough investigation by the auditor he reported that the company owes the city of Allegheny \$15,073.72, of which \$9,840 is due from the tax on cars at \$40 per car per year. The company claims that for the past 20 years it has been paying the tax on the average number of cars run, which Controller Brown verified, but could not say who had construed the ordinance that way. The following communication from the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Traction Company was read:

"This company, for the purpose of settling all claims on account of stock dividends or car taxes against the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Traction Company and the Pittsburgh Union Railway Company, hereby tenders the city of Allegheny the sum of \$6,889.83, which amount is made up as follows:

#### Their Bill of Particulars.

Stock dividend tax to July 1, 1921, \$4,688.83. Car tax admitted to be due by the city, \$810; on Union line, \$270. The item \$4,688.83 is a tax on stock dividends, all of which were declared prior to 1874, and many years before the traction company was incorporated. From this item the company could interpose the technical defense that the claim was outlawed, being upwards of 20 years old, but the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Traction Company would not have paid the taxes when they were due and this company does not wish to take advantage of its technical defense that it might have paid but rather than the city should not get what is justly due it would prefer to make a settlement of the claim because it is equitably bound to do so. The interest of \$810 is arrived at to the full satisfaction of the auditor when the company first made an examination of the company, and as a result of the operation of the agreement in force between the city and the company for the past 20 years, viz: that the company should pay \$40 per year for the average number of cars run during the year.

#### Their Basis Stated.

It is upon this basis that all dealings have taken place between the city and the company for the last 20 years, and it is only just that a settlement be had upon the provisions of the same agreement. The item of \$270 was found by the auditor to be due from the Union line and was by the company admitted to be due. This tender is made upon the express condition that if it is not accepted it shall be without prejudice to the rights of this company, the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Traction Company and the Pittsburgh Union Railway Company, and all circumstances and in any litigation in which the matter mentioned may be in controversy. And further, that unless the same be accepted within 15 days of its submission that it shall be considered null and void.

#### The letter was signed John H. Dalzell

and George B. Hill.

#### A Lively Discussion.

The communication was the subject of considerable discussion by the members of the committee. One member was in favor of making a compromise, and a motion was made to offer to make a settlement for \$8,000, but it was not seconded. It was finally concluded not to act on the matter until a written opinion could be secured from City Solicitor Elphinstone on whether the claim was barred by the statute of limitation, and also whether the acceptance of the tax on the average number of cars instead of each car would invalidate that claim. A communication was also received from the Allegheny Traction Company, acknowledging a bill of \$2,000 as correct, and a voucher will be sent in at once for the amount.

During the discussion it was developed that the Pleasant Valley people were seriously thinking of making advantage of the statute of limitation. The matter will be brought before the Finance Committee this evening.

### MORE RENT FOR STALLS.

An Increase of 100 Per Cent Wanted for the Allegheny Market.

The Allegheny sub-committee on City Property held an informal meeting last night preliminary to fixing a schedule of rents to be charged for the stalls in the market house. In making up the list Chief Editors and the Market Clerk the committee went through the market house inspecting the various stands and discussing their rental value, etc. In the course of the journey Mr. Lowe remarked that the whole business would stand an increase of 100 per cent at least and the occupants still have a cheap rent.

The Market Clerk pointed out numerous places where the tenants of the stalls have been encroaching with their stands on the space allowed for passage ways and suggested that action be taken in their cases. In several instances it was found costly stands had been erected by the lessees extending quite a distance into the aisles.

### WILL KEEP OPEN ON SUNDAY.

The Carnegie Library Reference Room to Be Opened To-day.

The regular meeting of the Allegheny Library Committee was held last night. In his report for the month of September Librarian Stevenson stated that the reference room was now ready for use to-day. It is decided to keep the room open from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. through the week, and from 10 P. M. on Sunday. After some discussion it was decided to pay the attendant in the reference room \$3 per Sunday.

### The Librarian's report of the reading

room for September showed that there were 10,842 volumes issued, 7,944 readers and 8,610 periodicals given out at the desk.

### Slaughter House on Fire.

Shortly before 9 o'clock last night a fire was discovered in Henry Fuch's slaughter house, corner of the Brighton road and Kirkpatrick street, Allegheny. The flames spread to an adjoining slaughter house, owned and occupied by Dele & Rembrandt. Chief Jones was in a second alarm, but the fire was extinguished before any considerable damage was done.

### Contract for a Chemical Engine.

Chief Brown's award of a contract to the Chemical Fire Extinguisher Company for a Champion chemical engine to cost \$1,700, was approved; the purchase of two safes for \$600 was also approved. A long list of Chief Brown's market improvement awards was also approved.

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