THE COURTS.

Trial of Geo. S. Twitchell, Jr., for the Murder of Mrs. Hill.

CONCLUSION OF YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Dr. Shapleigh recalled.—Immediately above the scalp, the wig was blood-stained to the separation, as though it flew from a blow on the western side of the Pine street wall and on Tenth street the blood was in a spray; the arc of the circle swept around as though it came from a rotary instrument with centrifugal force; the spray continued along the Tenth street wall nearly to the alley; a drop of blood on the door indicated that it had been open an inch or more; there was blood on the white sheets of paper and cupboard, showing the blood to have swept around on the Pine street wall and continued around to Tenth street wall; the blood-clot traced from the sofa to the window formed a distinct track; the blood-stained spots on walls were circular, as though falling perpendicular from a raised body, such as produced by carrying a bleeding body; the blood on the window was benumbed on the window sill; the blood-clotting had come in contact with it; not such a mark as a bloody hand would leave; there was no hair on clothing, and not a hand, would have made it; it was 1½, by ¾ or 1 inches; the body was closed when I made the post mortem; more skirts, under-clothing, and flannel than is usual; was very warmly dressed; the body must have been not entirely dead, or death would very quickly after the body was in the yard, to cause coagulation of blood; the blood would flow from half an hour after death; the body was dead, or had been very recently dying, when thrown out; the falling of the body from a window would have completed or enlarged the large fracture; it seemed to me that the blow received on the right side of the head; the bruises condition of the gums would be from the same cause; there were no other bruises but the slight ones on the knee: the scalp on the left side was bruised, and was caused by a fall on the knees.

Mr. O'Brien.—I do not desire you to speak a little louder, Doctor, as he cannot hear what you say.

Witness resumed—Sarah Campbell identified the body; the body was dressed as found in the yard.

Cross-examined by Mr. Mann—I have been engaged as physician to the Coroner for the past seven years; almost daily engaged in post mortems; am satisfied it is almost impossible to tell what kinds of instruments inflict some wounds; I mean to say that it is possible for an instrument like a poker to inflict a wound; I have seen lacerated, ragging and straight wounds might have been inflicted with a poker, and in a manner that would be assured by the fall; the shaft of the poker could have produced a straight wound; the hook and tongue of the poker the penetrating wounds, or an instrument like it; I know that to be so; I deal with probabilities; I have said the tongue of the poker could have produced the penetrating wound; say instrument like it would have made the same wound; the contused wound was larger than the tongue or the poker; I see no hair adhering to the poker; I have not seen what looks like blood on the shaft of the poker; it would be likely that the poker would be smeared with blood were it used; I estimated the size of the wounds by a piece of paper; did not measure them; the one on the right was two inches long; they were not all the same length; a wound of this character could be produced by an instrument greater in diameter than the poker; the ends of the wounds were not; and it might have been done by an instrument less than the poker, or smaller; they could have been caused by a heavy straight-edged poker; not just such wounds from a cane; piece of cane, with heavy brass head; I think that a blow with the cane would make a different wound from the stock of it, because it is shaped differently; if the wood of the cane had been scooped out and filled with lead, it would produce some of the wounds; such an instrument would push the skull in, but you could not account for the hole made in this head; portion of the skull is gone; it has not retained out of a poker to make this wound; a canister shot is a size or more smaller than the skull, but not make the hole in the brain; I could conceive of a canister shot making this hole; I could force four fingers in, because I could separate the scalp; the person that was lying on her left side she might have been struck from behind; I could not say from the moving of the poker about to gut it out would have enlarged the other wounds; a person has been struck from behind or before; a woman would have moved around after the severe blow in the head; have seen a man thresh with a flail, a long time and never succeed in hitting the person who have moved as she moved; the straight part of a flail-iron would have made the blows on the head; a heavy slung-shot would have made the wounds in patterns were shown to the witness, and he explained the wounds; I could not say that a slung-shot would not; I think either slung-shot would have made the wound on top and back of the head; the contused wound could possibly be made with one of these instruments; it is the nature of the wound and the quality of the iron as to its bending when struck across a skull; I think that a poker would bend; I think it would go through the skull before it would bend; if the wound might have been or has been produced by a similar weapon to a poker; if I were going to be asked a question to do so all that with, I would invent a different instrument; I think it would have been nearly the same thing if a man had an instrument than the poker to have distributed the set of blood; I could not say on the size of the man somewhat whether the instrument wielded would strike the same way; the spray is pretty high, near the ceiling; there are two sprays on the wall, one to the north and one from a westerly direction; whether the instrument that made the sprays was one, two or three; I could not say; I think it probably if it were four feet; there was a woolen cap on the head, and I should have said it had been taken away too quickly for blood to have got further down than it was; I could not say how far can be handle; if it was this instrument then it must have come the second time in a different direction.

To Mr. Shapleigh.—All the blows might have been inflicted by the poker, particularly the straight-edged one; the lacerated wounds might have been enlarged by the fall; all of the lacerated wounds could have been made by the poker; the hole in the right would not have been produced by the laceration; the height of the man, his position, and the ways he guarded the blows would have had much to do with the cause of the arc of blood; the cap was knitted of thick, made of wool, and was matted with blood, as was the hair beneath; there were fragments of a hair comb found in the hair behind the back of the cap.

To Mr. Mann.—It is possible to pass your finger into a wound as far as you choose after the skull is crushed in.

To Mr. Shuppard.—There was a perforation; I could see that the bone had been driven in.

Sarah Campbell sworn.—I recollect the examination of the body by Dr. Shapleigh; it was Mrs. Hill's; I believe; I knew Mrs. Hill, was acquainted with her; lived in Hill's house for seven weeks; Mr. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Twitchell and me constituted the family; I recollect the Sunday of this occurrence; I got up in the house a little before three o'clock, leaving no person that I knew of in the house except Mr. Hill; Mr. and Mrs. Twitchell had gone out; don't exactly know what time they went out; I saw them there after dinner, and before I went out; we had dinner from 12 to 1 o'clock; Mrs. Twitchell returned to the house between nine and ten o'clock; do not exactly know; I think it was; I live between Seventeenth and Lombard street; it struck nine as home when Mrs. Twitchell and I went straight home; when I reached Mrs. Hill's house I knocked at the front door several times and waited again for an answer; I rung it several times and waited again; I then went around to the second, third, fourth and fifth time; pulled it violently after the last ringing; I knew that if the door bell is in the kitchen; after I pulled it violently an answer was made inside of the house by Mr. Twitchell; I mean he let me in; he opened the front door and I entered; "Is this you, Sarah?" I said "yes, sir;" he said, "do you think there will be a ball?" I suppose mother was Mrs. Hill; I said, "I don't know;" he said, "I would see;" there was no gas burning in the entry; there is a burner there, and is generally used, but put out early; he had no light when he came in; he went behind me and shut the door; I went into the kitchen; I don't think he remained long at the front door; he had on his boots on; don't know if he fastened the front door; I went into the kitchen and looked for a dark coat and pants on, and I don't know anything further of his movements; I changed my boots on; don't know if he fastened the front door; I went into the kitchen; I don't think he remained long at the front door; he went before me; I got into the kitchen; he was up stairs, I think; he did not look down the kitchen stairs; the door leading from the entry to the kitchen open; the kitchen door was open; I entered the kitchen; it was a cool evening, I believe; of course the air swept through the entry; I felt the cold air as I went to the kitchen; there was a lighted candle on the kitchen table, which is in the floor, but whether in the centre I don't know; I think it is under the Pine street side; Mr. Twitchell did not go to bed with me into the kitchen; noticed no door open or shut when he went up stairs; I went to close the Coalbrook door, which opens into a small enclosed yard, with Venetian slats on the Pine street side; the second-story room extends over the enclosure; when I got to the back kitchen door I saw something in the yard, and I turned back, took the candle and saw Mrs. Hill lying down in the back yard, outside of the slats; did not go further than the door with the candle; went with the candle-light to see what it was; I supposed it to be Mrs. Hill; her body was looked for; I turned back into the kitchen and left the candle there; Mr. Hill came down into the kitchen to where the table stood; Mr. Twitchell said what, I think, or something like that, when I called him, and I called again for him to come down; he came down as I stated; I went out; after I called; the answer appeared to come from the same direction; did not observe a door open before the answer; the answer appeared to come from the front street; "Mrs. Twitchell, come down fast," were my words; heard no answer to that; he came down on front stairs, I think; I went into the yard, and I said him in coming; I said, "Mrs. Hill was lying in the yard," as I passed him; I passed on; I saw Mrs. Hill; see no occasions when he came down; I did not take the candle to the yard; I went outside the Venetian blinds; don't recollect any answer when I said Mrs. Hill was in the yard; in the yard he said, "My God! what is this?" this was after I made the remark of Mrs. Hill; lifting the body he made no reply; the candle was in on the table; we carried in Mrs. Hill; he asked, would my person assist to carry her in; Mrs. Twitchell was down on the kitchen floor; I assisted him; he catched by the shoulders to raise her up like; either before or after he did this he asked if no one could assist him; the head was next to the slat door; which was open; I observed a pool of blood under the head in front of it; the door could not have been pulled open without disturbing the body; the body had straight towards the door; it was taken out from the slat door; did not observe if the catching was disturbed; I could see no door; do not take notice of more of the limbs; I took hold of the body by the feet; the body was taken from the sofa in the kitchen; Mr. Twitchell asked for water and asked for a doctor; water was brought him, and he bathed the face of Mrs. Hill with a cloth; I went for a doctor; I went to the house of a doctor; he applied the water to the face repeatedly; I remained there; Mrs. Hill's daughter was lamenting and grieving very hard; Mr. Twitchell went for a doctor; I went for a doctor; I don't remember what else; can't remember his words when lamenting; Twitchell and two policemen; people were out and in that I don't know; I don't know; I went to the house I was there, but I never saw him before; don't remember how long he was there; he went out in the night; don't know if he staid all night; he went out with the marshal; I don't know if he went out in the night; have seen some of the persons since, and might have seen them before; saw Mr. Twitchell on Wednesday evening for my trunk to go to Camden; I was there; Twitchell was not there; the officers told me to come to the house; I was in Mrs. Hill's room to get some clothes.

To cross-examination.

Frederick H. Weaver—Keeper of the Philadelphia Bank of Commerce; I was in the neighborhood of Tenth and Pine at twenty minutes to 10 on the Sunday night; I was going on duty; my attention was called to a person standing on the steps of the bank; Mrs. Hill's or I got in front of the door, she exclaimed, "Oh, my God, what shall I do!" I asked her what was the matter.

Mr. O'Byrne—We object to the answer.

Mr. Sheppard—We do not press it.

Witness resumed—I stopped one or two minutes; a gentleman next door looked out the window; I apologized and went on up Tenth street, and meddled with no circumstance to two gentlemen, with light overcoats; I turned round and saw a lady, a person dressed in dark clothing, go in the house; also two gentlemen with the light overcoats went in the house, and the man from the second house from the corner.

To cross-examination.

J. F. Montgomery, sworn—I reside 317 South Tenth street, second door above Pine; next house to Mrs. Hill's; on the Sunday night, as near as I can judge, about 9½ P. M., my attention was attracted by a very loud and unusual knock at my small door; I answered a second knock; I asked who was there, and a voice, I think Mrs. Twitchell's, asked me to come in, as there was a murder there; I hastened down stairs, rang the bell, and was admitted to Mrs. Hill's house; a half way between the front door and stairs I met Mrs. Twitchell; think she admitted me; but the hall was dark, and I could not discern; I followed her to the kitchen and saw the body of Mrs. Hill lying on the settee in the southeast part of the kitchen; I think Mrs. Twitchell was the only person there standing near the body; my recollection is a white cloth was on it with blood upon it was thrown over the face; I was asked who was the nearest doctor; and named Dr. Merrill, and went immediately for him, and accompanied him back to Mrs. Hill's kitchen; no other persons were in the house.

Dr. Zantzinger, two gentlemen, Mr. Leidy and Mr. Hill, and Will specifications as to the same exception.

To the same exception.

To Mr. Mann's answer—No. 1616 Germantown road: I voted for Leonard Myers at the last October election; was nominated by ticket and canvassed with that in the German paper (*the Free Press*); Mr. Myers's principles of naturalization; I have lived fifteen years in this country; I declared my intentions in Court, New Jersey, about seven years ago; I got my last papers in Philadelphia, I don't know in what court; Mr. Morris, third-mate on Eighth street, was my voucher; he went with me to get my papers; another gentleman with me, named Kaufman; I got them about two days of the first Lincoln election; about a month or two before the election.

To Mr. Hagert—Mr. and Mrs. Twitchell occupied the back apartment of the house; I heard the second story; as far as I understand, Mrs. Hill occupied the front second-story room.

Mr. Mann called attention to the rule requiring but one counsel to examine a witness. There is no objection to its being suspended, but as long as it was the rule, it should not be condemned with so gross an irregularity.

Judge Brewster said the rule was not enforced strictly in homicide cases. It would be wise to confine to two counsel on each side.

Mr. Mann said he objected to the counsel asking any questions upon the direct examination. It never had been the practice.

Judge Brewster thought he could correct it when the learned gentleman and his assistant were prosecuting it had been done.

Mr. Mann said he had been repeating what the witness said, and could not be near enough, and could not hear the witness's answers distinctly.

Judge Brewster directed Mr. Hagert to proceed.

Witness resumed—My sleeping-room was in the third-story front room on Sunday night; about Mr. Twitchell was taken to the station house; I remained in the house with Mrs. Twitchell and two policemen; people were out and in that I don't know; I don't know how long Mr. Twitchell was there, but I never saw him before; don't remember how long he remained; I went to bed in the night; don't know if he staid all night; he went out with the marshal; I don't know if he went out in the night; have seen some of the persons since, and might have seen them before; saw Mr. Twitchell on Wednesday evening for my trunk to go to Camden; I was there; Twitchell was not there; the officers told me to come to the house; I was in Mrs. Hill's room to get some clothes.

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THE HESTER VAUGHAN CASE.

A Sensible Letter.

To the Ladies of the Hester Vaughan Movement—LADIES: Please read my letter. For years I have sympathized here and sent in the woman's right's movement—all the misery of abuse and ridicule in consequence; being a victim I think I should excel in having their rights justice might even more ballsted than it is! God knows, I have had enough to contend with in connection with unfeeling assassins and murderers in the shape of husbands, and society's hypocrisy, and its consequence. Now I ask you *why* should a woman who deliberately beats her child to death be dealt with as an unsexed monster, the crime of "murder?" Why should the man who murders his wife, his own, and which we cannot make him accountable, society is constituted—(pity us, but we need to be used as a shield and excuse for her brutal and distinct crime, viz.: child-murder, and Mr. Curtis and others of the jury, who have declined to plead the acts of infanticide? the extreme cruelty which it evidences? An infant is naturally appealing, and has a heart to love and to its own mother! An infant is purely helpless; and in that fact, the guiltiest of the unnecessary and lust are bad enough, but infanticide is so much worse, that no human being should be allowed to live. Why should the law, which is framed, permitting the escape of impure air, and the ingress of pure air, by having a window lowered from the top in summer and winter, if other means of ventilation have not been provided, be liable to suffocation from the inhalation of noxious gases, escape of sewer gas, or poisonous air from the lungs of one's own or other virtuous woman need to fall. I am not one of those who lay all the blame upon the men, for I think the women know what they are about; and, ladies, I consider that men are very generally besieged and tempted by their wives to do wrong. A woman's rights woman.

Dr. Hall has for several years past in New York, and I can truly say it is the Mother's pride of the Infantile—What are the records showing the old of the ash troubles there, the sprue, the sinks, the lots, the cholera infantum, the worms, and the convulsions, &c. With their little corpses of murdered fame choked to death, their brains smashed by their mothers' brutal violence? Just because not one example has been made. Ladies, I have been about 15 years a married woman, and about 15 years of age