

# Daily Evening Bulletin

GIBSON PEACOCK, Editor.

OUR WHOLE COUNTRY.

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PHILADELPHIA THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1869.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

**WEDDING CARDS.—INVITATIONS FOR EARLY ARRIVAL.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**MARRIED.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**DIED.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**THE TWO TRIALS.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**THE EXECUTION TO-DAY.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**Eaton Hung at 12.48.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**He Made No New Statement.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**Twitchell's Death Caused by Strychnine.**—On the 7th inst., Isaac M. Ashton, in the 61st year of his age. The male relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Saturday (Sunday) morning, at 9 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 126 Walnut street, at 10 o'clock.

**Public attention has been so much attracted to George S. Twitchell, Jr., that little attention has been paid to Gerald Eaton, convicted of the murder of Timothy Heenan.**

**At 15 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 16 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 17 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 18 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 19 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 20 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 21 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 22 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 23 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 24 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 25 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 26 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 27 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 28 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 29 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

**At 30 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell.**

## EXTRA

### TWITCHELL AND EATON

#### END OF THE TRAGEDY

#### Twitchell Commits Suicide

#### History of the Cases

#### THE TWO TRIALS

#### After Conduct of the Condemned

#### THE EXECUTION TO-DAY

#### Eaton Hung at 12.48

#### He Made No New Statement

#### Twitchell's Death Caused by Strychnine

At about three o'clock this morning the watchman on duty at the prison observed Twitchell walking up and down his cell, apparently in much distress.

At twenty minutes past five the watchman again visited the cell and found the condemned man lying in his bed, apparently in a quiet sleep. The watchman entered and accosted him, and receiving no reply, shook him, and found to his horror that the prisoner was dead.

A hasty examination by the officers of the prison made it almost certain that the condemned man committed suicide, by taking poison which had been conveyed to him by some of his friends.

Within the last twenty-four hours, Twitchell has evinced an overwhelming terror at his approaching fate, and there can be little doubt that, either at his own suggestion or by the instigation of some friend, bent upon avoiding the ignominy of the scaffold, he had concealed the poison with which he had ended his miserable life.

Whether proper precautions have been taken to prevent Twitchell from laying violent hands upon himself cannot be ascertained, except by official investigation.

The murderer has added to his crime of assassination and falsehood, the crime of suicide, to which he has been undoubtedly driven by the uncontrollable terror which the failure of the last attempt to save him had produced. His miserable end will awaken a sensation of pity even in those who most firmly believed in his guilt, and in the justice of his condemnation. He has died, and made no sign to convince anyone of the truth of his so-called confession, and there is now but one being alive who can unravel the whole mystery of the dreadful deed which has rent George S. Twitchell, Jr., to a suicide's grave.

**FURTHER PARTICULARS.** Twitchell's cell was visited this morning by Deputy Corner Fletcher and Dr. Shapleigh. The dead body of Twitchell was found lying upon the bed. The face had a ghastly and livid appearance, such as is always perceptible in a person who has been killed with poison. The eyes were wide open and staring horribly; the mouth also was partially distended. The hands were contracted as if by the spasmodic action of the poison upon the muscles.

The Doctor was unable to make a careful post-mortem examination at the moment, but there is no reason whatever to doubt that the unhappy man had taken violent poison of some kind.

A stick of licorice was found in the cell, with the end bitten off. It is not unlikely that the fatal drug had been concealed in this and conveyed to the prisoner.

A detailed post-mortem examination will be made by Dr. Shapleigh this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

There seems to be no doubt whatever that Twitchell intended from the first to kill himself if he were not pardoned or reprieved.

Mr. Brinkhurst left Twitchell last night, at 11 o'clock, in good health, and probably meditating this second awful crime.

At a very late hour in the night Twitchell was visited by three Catholic priests, who were in attendance upon Eaton. Twitchell received them kindly, expressing his gratification at their

attention. Although in much agitation and distress, there was not such an excessive degree of emotion as to excite any anxiety for his life.

When our reporter visited the cell this morning, he found the body lying upon the cot, extended as in life, and nothing but the signs mentioned above to indicate a violent death.

The cell was a marvel of neatness, everything being in perfect order. Opposite the bed was a small table, on which stood some fragrant flowers, while on the wall hung several photographs, one of them being a portrait of his friend McNulty, who stood by him throughout his trial.

Over these pictures was a Scriptural text. There was nothing in the cell to indicate that Twitchell did not die calmly and peacefully.

The Sheriff visited the cell this morning with his jury in order to be convinced of the prisoner's death; and the Coroner was in attendance to make arrangements for the post-mortem examination.

**LATER.** It has been ascertained that Twitchell was poisoned with strychnine.

**A STANDBY STORY.** It appears that Gerald Eaton was aware of Twitchell's intention to commit suicide. A gentleman who had a conversation with Eaton this morning, says that some time last night the two condemned men were allowed to have an interview. In the course of it, Twitchell said, "Jerry, you will have to go alone to-morrow. I'll not be with you; but burn the word."

Afterwards Eaton revealed this statement to the clergyman in attendance, and they thought proper to inform the officers of the prison. Twitchell's cell was then thoroughly searched, and everything was removed by which he might injure himself, even the looking-glass being taken away. But he must have had poison concealed about him, or may have already swallowed it.

**GERALD EATON.** In the cell beneath Twitchell, was Gerald Eaton. Confined in the cell of which Probst, Winmore and Berger had been inmates, he has at no time displayed any anxiety or fear, but on the contrary, has expressed the idea that if the spirits from the other world would come to earth, he should have seen the former inmates of his cell; and in a jocular manner he said he had seen none of them.

Rev. Father Riley was with him until late at night, administering the consolations of the Catholic Church, and this morning he was resigned, and willing to meet his fate.

Late last evening he stood at his door and saw Twitchell in the corridor above, and on the opposite side. He said to him: "Well, George, how do you do? I hope you will go out like a man to-morrow."

Twitchell made no reply, except by signs which consisted of an elevation of the hand to the mouth, which has since been interpreted to mean a manifestation of his intention to commit suicide.

This morning Eaton took a last farewell of his wife, the interview being of the most affecting character.

After the left nobody was allowed to communicate with him except Father Riley, who was in attendance since daylight.

Eaton still continued cheerful, and expressed his thanks in the most enthusiastic terms to his counsel, asserting that he had done all in his power to save him.

**THE EXECUTION.** This morning, after the announcement that Twitchell had escaped the gallows, the city was full of rumors that this would save Eaton. At ten o'clock Sheriff Lyle appeared at the prison with the following deputies and jurors:

C. Francis McGuire, William Wagner, John R. Downing, George Fisher, Robert M. Early.

Joseph Wagner, Peter Ambruster, Jas. McCord, Ignatz Reichler, Fred H. Gerkin, George Magno, David P. Weaver, Albert S. Bonaffon, Jno. J. Reese, Henry O. Moore, Jno. G. Howard, Albert H. Gross.

Hoping against hope, the Sheriff delayed the execution of Eaton as long as the law would permit.

Friends and relatives were in the prison yard discussing the probabilities of a respite, and even the Sheriff began to believe that at the last minute something would reach him from Harrisburg.

The Sheriff was at the prison shortly after ten o'clock, and after the examination of Twitchell's body nothing remained but to prepare for execution the sole remaining prisoner.

After waiting patiently for the expected respite, the Sheriff at last concluded that the Governor would not interfere. In the meantime Father Riley and Father Barry were in attendance upon Eaton, giving him the last consolation of religion. Throughout he was firm and collected, and in no respect gave any indications of fear of his approaching doom.

At eleven o'clock Messrs. Brooke and Shapley, his counsel, visited him in his cell to bid a last farewell. The gentlemen were accompanied by the prisoner grasped him by the hand, and in doing so betrayed not the slightest tremor. Father Riley requested the reporter to be present at the scaffold in order to report anything that might be said. The reporter suggested that it would be better to make his statement in advance, as the newspaper representatives might be too nervous to take down what was said.

This fact was stated to Eaton, and he at once said: "I am innocent of the crime for which I am thankful to all the prison people for their all kindness, and especially to my counsel for their exertions in my behalf."

After this interview Eaton was left alone with his spiritual adviser, and nothing of what occurred in the condemned cell was allowed to escape.

At forty minutes past 12 o'clock the Sheriff concluded that there was no necessity for waiting longer for news from Harrisburg. Information was sent to Eaton to prepare, and he expressed his willingness and readiness to be led to the scaffold.

**THE SCAFFOLD.** The structure upon which Probst, Williams, Armstrong and Winmore were executed, was erected at the end of the northern corridor, the same spot upon which Winmore was executed.

At 15 minutes of one o'clock Eaton was led from his cell between Fathers Riley and Barry, both robed, and both chanting the dirge for the dying, as they marched to the cell. Eaton, dressed nearly in a suit of dark clothing, carried in his hands a black crucifix, which he frequently placed to his lips as he passed along the walk leading to the gallows. The procession itself was led by the condemned and the clergyman, followed by the deputies, jurors and reporters, and during the solemn march the prisoners, who could view the cortege from their cell windows, peered curiously out, and occasionally one of the more inquisitive would inquire what was Eaton.

Reaching the scaffold, Eaton, whose eyes had been downcast during the short journey, gave one glance at the structure, but betrayed not the slightest emotion. Without hesitating, he walked up the steps and stood with Fathers, Riley and Barry, upon the scaffold. Sheriff Lyle and Mr. Perkins were also upon the platform, and when the last rites of the Church for the dying were administered, they stood aside. Eaton and the clergyman knelt upon the platform, and while the prayers for the dying were being recited, he followed audibly and with a firm voice. The whole concluded with the Lord's Prayer and an invocation to the Holy Virgin, and as Eaton rose from his knees he arranged his dress, especially that part below the knees that had been drawn up, which engaged in prayer. Sheriff Lyle, Mr. Perkins and the two clerymen bade him farewell.

The Sheriff remained with the others retired, and after placing the handcuffs on his hands behind his back, put the white cap over his face. During all this time the most careful scrutiny of the frame of the man who was expected in a few minutes to be launched into eternity failed to detect the slightest tremor. He stood erect, and when the noose was placed around his neck in a manner not satisfactory to those who were in charge of the execution, he turned his head, in order to allow a more scientific adjustment of the noose. So long with the cap, it was some time before it could be properly arranged, and during this process Eaton was calm and composed, and so far as was possible with his pinioned hands, assisted the Sheriff to fix the cap in its proper position.

**HANGED.** At twelve minutes of one o'clock everybody had left the scaffold. Eaton stood upright, and in no motion indicating the slightest fear of death. Shut out from the world by the cap over his face, he could not tell what was occurring around him, and there was nothing of this world except the rattle of the timber as it was being removed from beneath the scaffold, preparatory to the pulling of the rope which would hurl him into the air.

On the platform, all these preparations he could hear; he could hear the mutterings of the small crowd gathered to witness his execution, but of the entire party it is doubtful if Eaton was not the most composed.

At 10 minutes of one the rope was pulled and Gerald Eaton dropped. There was no perceptible struggle until the body had hung about five minutes, when there was the usual muscular contraction in the lower limbs.

A double execution in Philadelphia has not been witnessed for years, and it was not surprising that the people who gathered to witness the execution there was this wide difference. One had killed in cool blood and with premeditation a mother-in-law, while the other, though guilty of murder, was believed to have been instigated by the demon of drink and was not in his sober senses when he committed the offence. A simple narrative of the two cases will best illustrate what we refer to.

**THE TWITCHELL CASE.** On the 22d of November, a quiet Sunday evening, the neighborhood of Tenth and Pine was startled with the story that Mary E. Hill had been murdered and thrown from a window, where she was afterwards discovered. Sarah Campbell, a servant girl in the family, who had left the house early in the afternoon and returned a few minutes after 9 o'clock, was surprised that her repeated rings at the bell were not answered, until George S. Twitchell, Jr., dressed in an under-shirt, with a coat buttoned to the chin, admitted her. He expressed some surprise that his mother-in-law, Mrs. Hill, did not answer the bell, and used the expression, "I wonder where she can be, and what she would be doing so late."

The servant girl did help, and when they had passed upstairs, leaving the servant to discover the whereabouts of the missing woman, Sarah Campbell found a candle burning in the kitchen, with the doors open, and naturally she passed into the yard in order to ascertain the meaning of the exposed condition of the house. Outside the kitchen door, and immediately beneath the window in the sleeping room above, she found the lifeless corpse of Mrs. Hill. She gave the alarm; Mr. Twitchell responded, and after expressing his surprise, inquired, "Will nobody help me to carry her down?" The servant girl did help, and when they had passed downstairs, leaving the servant to discover the whereabouts of the missing woman, Sarah Campbell found a candle burning in the kitchen, with the doors open, and naturally she passed into the yard in order to ascertain the meaning of the exposed condition of the house. Outside the kitchen door, and immediately beneath the window in the sleeping room above, she found the lifeless corpse of Mrs. Hill. She gave the alarm; Mr. Twitchell responded, and after expressing his surprise, inquired, "Will nobody help me to carry her down?"

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his only reply was, "This is a fatality." In the meantime Mrs. Twitchell was in custody. As the details of the murder were stated, she did not at first attach to her; but after being detained in the house during the night, and the discovery next morning that Mrs. Hill, her mother, had been murdered, she commenced a prosecution against George S. Twitchell, who was taken into custody as a principal.

The grounds for suspicion, independent of any other circumstances, were these: Mrs. Hill had purchased a house at Tenth and Pine, but in the negotiations the deed had been made to Camilla E. Twitchell. When this was discovered by Mrs. Hill, a few weeks before the murder, she was greatly incensed, and had visited a lawyer with a view to the instituting of proceedings on the Monday succeeding the day on which she was murdered.

At the Coroner's inquest all these facts were developed, and Mr. and Mrs. Twitchell were committed for trial. Messrs. Mann, O'Byrne, Collins, Pratt and Mansford were then engaged for the parties, and an effort was made to secure the release of the wife upon a writ of habeas corpus, but the effort failed, and the case was called for trial December 17, 1868. A severance was demanded, but the court refused, and the case was called for trial December 17, 1868. A severance was demanded, but the court refused, and the case was called for trial December 17, 1868.

The trial was held at the residence of the defendant, and the jury was impanelled on December 21, and then commenced one of the most memorable cases in our local history. It was led on for the parties, and an effort was made to secure the release of the wife upon a writ of habeas corpus, but the effort failed, and the case was called for trial December 17, 1868. A severance was demanded, but the court refused, and the case was called for trial December 17, 1868.

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